The Nation and The Athenæum

THE NATION. Vol. XXXIII., No. 11.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1923.

THE ATHENÆUM. No. 4859.

CONTENTS

F	AGE		PAGE
EVENTS OF THE WEEK	355	REVIEWS (continued)—	
THE DIPLOMACY OF REPARATIONS			. 369
THE POSITION OF AGRICULTURE. By Sir Henry Rew	359		. 370
THE REVOLUTION IN BULGARIA. By Arnold J. Toynbee	360		. 370
LIFE AND POLITICS. By Omicron	361	Dead Diplomacy	. 371
" MOLL FLANDERS." By the Right Hon. Augustine Birrell	363	The Economic Effects of the Reformation. By J. H. C	. 371
THE BEGINNINGS OF OPERA IN ENGLAND. By Edward J.	364	BOOKS IN BRIEF (Trade Unionism, and Workshop Organization; The Worshipful Company of Grocers; The	e
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. By Harold Storey, Albert Clayton, Englishwoman, and Francis Birrell	365	Dominant Sex; The Enemies of Liberty; The Mercantil Marine; The Story of Christ; The Secret Agent)	e . 372
POETRY:—		THE DRAMA:-	
Spring Poet's Pastoral. By Herbert E. Palmer	366	Two New Planets. By Francis Birrell	. 374
THE WORLD OF BOOKS. By Leonard Woolf	367	THE PUBLISHERS' TABLE	. 374
Reviews :-			376
Quantula Sapientia By H A. Law	368		
Magic and Science. By M. A. Murray	368		376
An Ancient Controversy	369	FINANCE AND INVESTMENT. By J. M. K	. 378

All communications and MSS. should be addressed to the Editor, The NATION AND THE ATHENEUM, 10, Adelphi Terrace, W.C. 2.

All Articles in The NATION AND THE ATHENEUM are copyright in the U.S.A. by the "New Republic."

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

THE new German Note has been received by the British Press with a remarkable unanimity of quiet approval. A year ago it would have seemed incredible that the "Times." the "Manchester Guardian." the "Spectator," and the "New Statesman" should strike the same note on the European situation. Everyone agrees that, if our interest is in the economic problem of Reparations, the Note offers as fair a basis of negotiation as we can expect. The method of ultimatums has been pursued for four years, mainly because the Allies' terms have been such that no one, least of all their authors, thought them fit for rational discussion. The general feeling that the time is now approaching for a Conference at which Germany will be present is a natural accompaniment of the desire to return to reason. Future progress depends, not on anything that Germany can do, but on Mr. Baldwin's success in handling France. It is a moment when "diplomacy" has vast powers for good or for evil.

THE Note is important for its tone and method of approach, rather than for what it adds to its predecessor. Lord Curzon's good advice to avoid irrelevant and controversial issues has been followed, with the result that it is no longer possible to ignore the substance of the German offer by dwelling on side-issues and faults of manner and expression. The principal novelty is the development of the so-called "Guarantees,"-the Railways, the real estate, and the Customs and Excise of Germany. These having taken the place of the International loan as the fashionable trimmings of settlement, Germany has, quite properly, fallen in with Lord Curzon's hint to develop them. But, in truth, they are not, and cannot be, of much value. No one doubts that Germany can secure gross receipts in paper marks, which is all that these "guarantees" can ensure. They do not touch the real difficulty as to how such receipts are to be converted into the equivalent of gold marks outside Germany.

An early settlement is not to be expected, but the Note may serve to clear the air. Italy, though her communications have been rather smothered in cautious generalities, agrees substantially with Britain in regarding the Note as adequate basis for negotiations. Belgium has her own axe to grind, but would come into line readily enough but for her subservience to France. France, speaking officially through her Ambassador in London, has insisted first that the British Government shall join in a demand that passive resistance in Germany shall cease, and secondly that conversations shall then proceed on the basis of what is virtually the plan rejected by Mr. Bonar Law when M. Poincaré put it forward in January at Paris. Subsequently there have been significant indications in the French Press that the Quai d'Orsay, frightened at the prospect of isolation and anxious this time for joint Allied action, is disposed to relax slightly the rigidity of its formulæ. But there is no hope of progress along these lines. A real settlement is impossible without a far more drastic change in the policy of France than is conceivable in her present mood. She herself has destroyed the worthless semblance of Allied unity; and the British Government will make a fatal error if they join again in making demands upon Germany which they know to be unreasonable or impossible

LORD CURZON'S Russian policy has succeeded beyond most people's expectation. His correspondence with M. Tchitcherin has progressed on a steadily diminishing note of asperity, ending with a perhaps involuntary betrayal of sentiments almost cordial. There has been settlement all along the line. The Weinstein Notes are withdrawn. The British contention on fishing rights is admitted. The required compensation in the Davison and Stan Harding cases is to be paid. Lord Curzon has obligingly amended his reciprocal anti-propaganda pledge to meet M. Tchitcherin's views. The over-zealous M. Raskolnikoff is already exercising his maleficent activities in a sphere far removed from Kabul; and it is tacitly assumed that domestic bereavement or some other equally effective causa causans will impel M. Shumiatsky to evacuate Teheran, should any further complaints be laid against him. Altogether there is today a real opportunity for progress towards a new relationship with Russia. It is significant that the secre-

p sa ta

iı

tl b

tary of the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, writing to contradict Mr. Ronald McNeill's statement that that body regarded the Trade Agreement as valueless, explains that what the Chamber really desires to emphasize is the need for the establishment of those more permanent relations to which the Agreement was avowedly a mere prelude. It is unfortunate that Lord Curzon declined to accept M. Tchitcherin's proposal for a general conversation on Anglo-Russian relations. It will have to come, and the sooner the better for this country as well as Russia.

THE town-recruited Bulgarian army succeeded a week ago in overthrowing the Agrarian Government by a sudden coup at a moment when the supporters of the latter were for the most part busy on their farms and particularly indisposed to attempt a counter-blow. But it is too soon yet to decide what the new Government's chances of survival are. Headed by Professor Zankoff, who has so far figured little in the public eye, it is essentially bourgeois in colour, and if assured the continued support of the army may be able to hold on. The usual formal protestations of continuity in foreign policy and general friendliness to all the world have been issued; but serious suspicions have been aroused in the Balkans, and the Jugo-Slav army is concentrating on the Bulgarian frontier. There is no reason to suppose that at the present stage this is anything but a measure of precaution, but the situation is undoubtedly disquieting. Stambolisky's downfall seems to have been largely due to discontent with the Prime Minister's high-handed domestic policy; while his failure to secure his Lausanne claim for physical access to the Ægean no doubt told against him. But the future would be easier to predict if it were known with more certainty what part Macedonian elements have actually played in the coup.

THE Kenya conversations, the conduct of which up to the present does the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. Ormsby-Gore considerable credit, are taking an interesting turn. What began as a controversy between European and Indian settlers, for political and other rights in the colony, is developing fast into a concentration of attention on the prior rights of the natives. Both the parties to the main dispute have accelerated that tendency, the Indians by declaring frankly that they recognized that the land belonged of right to its actual inhabitants and that the Indian influx could be only temporary, the Europeans by presenting themselves as the responsible and solicitous trustees of native Native education, particularly industrial education, in Kenya has been very little developed, what progress has been registered being mainly the work of missionary agencies. If native self-government is the ultimate, though necessarily distant, goal, resolute efforts by the British authorities to equip the native for new responsibilities are called for. The influence of adjacent Mandate areas should stimulate the Colonial Secretary to press steadily forward on the path he is reputed to be taking. A sound policy laid down now must have the effect of confirming the rights of native races in other territories than Kenya.

The Financial Resolution authorizing the new Sinking Fund was moved by Mr. Baldwin on Monday. The sums of £40,000,000 this year, of £45,000,000 next year, and of £50,000,000 in each succeeding year are to be devoted to the repayment of debt. This provision was criticized by Labour as inadequate, and by Mr. Hilton Young as excessive. Mr. Asquith expressed the hope

that in future and more normal years debt-redemption would be carried out more rapidly. It is a profound fallacy to suppose that a reduction in taxation stimulates investment more than the repayment of debt. A man is much more likely to spend outright the extra money with which a reduced income tax leaves him than the money he receives in repayment of War Loan, which he regards as part of his capital. The Sinking Fund ought to be put upon a compound-interest basis. That is to say, the saving on interest on the debt which results from the redemption carried out in the previous year ought to be devoted in part to speeding up redemp-Otherwise, as Mr. Lees - Smith remarked, posterity 150 years hence will still be redeeming the debt piled up in this generation. Unfortunately, Mr. McKenna's declared opinions are as unsound on this issue as they are sound on the issue of Free Trade.

THE honours of Monday's debate on Imperial Preference went to Mr. Pringle, who spoke on ground carefully prepared for him by Sir William Joynson-Hicks. The latter, making diligent use of the post hoc, propter hoc fallacy, endeavoured to prove that the preference has enormously increased the proportion of our trade done within the Empire. According to Sir William, the increase in the percentage of raisins imported from Australia is "the result of the preference on dried fruits," and not of the fact that Greeks and Turks have been busily devastating one of the most important alternative sources of supply; while the fact that 90 per cent. of the tea consumed in this country comes from within the Empire is due to the duty, and not to such trifling concatenations as any preference on the part of the public for the flavour and the price of Indian or Ceylon tea as against China tea. Finally, we were asked to regard this kind of largesse to the Dominions as "the spiritual recognition of a spiritual union." As Mr. Pringle very truly remarked, the days when this "rubbish" would do duty in Parliament passed with the Coalition Parliament.

On Tuesday, it was Captain Wedgwood Benn's turn to score heavily. In the debate on the "McKenna Duties" he remarked with well-feigned simplicity that Mr. McKenna must be opposed to these duties and desire their repeal. This assertion was received with Ministerial cries of "How do you know?" and Sir William Joynson-Hicks was unwary enough to ask what authority there was for the statement. Captain Benn then read a letter dated May 31st, 1921, written to the Estey Organ Company, in which Mr. McKenna said :-"I deeply regret that the Government has not given effect to my promise, which was publicly made in the House of Commons, that the ad valorem duties on imported luxuries should be imposed for the period of the war only. The best advice I can offer now is that you should appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to remove the tax, which I am well aware operates very injuriously to your business." It is evident, of course, that if the Chancellor in 1921 was bound by Mr. McKenna's promise to repeal the duties, then a fortiori he is bound himself.

Mr. Baldwin met fairly well the detailed criticism of his bargain with the brewers over the reduction of the beer duty. Unless he had made some such bargain, he said, the reduction in the tax might never have reached the consumer at all, and in the circumstances he made the best bargain he could. Nevertheless, it is not very seemly that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should negotiate with the liquor trade about his Budget pro-

d

a

n

d

ıt

S

r

)-

e

3.

r

9

le

10

n

of

10

n-

ic

28

d al

y

n

's

at

nd

th

ir

at

ne

en

he

on

of

at

er

ry

e,

r.

ri

m

he

he

ed

de

гу

ld

posals, and no such negotiation would have been necessary if Mr. Baldwin's general policy in regard to the taxation of that trade had been better founded. The truth is that there was no valid case for any reduction in the beer tax. The only consideration which could have justified such a reduction would have been that the tax was above saturation point—that is, that it was producing less revenue than a lower tax would yield. If such were the case a reduction would be sure to reach the consumer, and no deal with the brewers would have been required. But, of course, this was not the case. In the present state of the national finances the reduction of the beer duty as part of a general policy of tax reduction, although tea and sugar remain heavily taxed, is mere prodigality.

WITH an almost unanimous vote the House of Commons has given a third reading to Major Entwistle's Divorce Bill; and the House of Lords has so often demonstrated its zeal for divorce reform that the Bill ought now to reach the Statute Book without much difficulty. The Bill is a very modest one, which leaves the essential controversy about divorce severely alone. All that it does is to put the wife on an equal footing with her husband, and to enable her to divorce her husband for misconduct alone. At present a wife has to prove, in addition, either cruelty or desertion. handful of opponents to the Bill in the House of Commons argued that it would make collusive divorces more easy; but as a large proportion of the proceedings for restitution of conjugal rights, which are now the usual preliminary to an application for divorce on the grounds of misconduct and desertion, are known to be collusive, this objection has little practical force.

THE local dispute at Pelaw and Silvertown between the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers has now culminated in general open warfare. The issues at stake are most complicated, and the Press campaign, which both sides are vigorously pursuing, does not, with its mass of conflicting assertions and deductions, greatly help the outsider to form a balanced judgment as to the rights and wrongs of the case. The vital issues are concerned with the manner in which alterations of wages shall take place, and the union's right to prior consultation in certain circumstances; but the enforcement of certain specific wage reductions is an important factor. The latest turn of events is the appointment of a mediating committee by the General Council of the Trade Union Congress, which committee has successfully arranged for a meeting with the C.W.S. and secured the assent of the N.U.D.A.W. to an arbitration scheme. It is a hopeful sign that both sides are apparently anxious for renewed negotiations: neither really desires a trial of fighting strength. This is eminently satisfactory, for at least one point is clear, namely, the unedifying nature of such a dispute, whether from the point of view of trade unionism or the co-operative movement. There is much to be said for the principles which the C.W.S. are asserting, but very little to be said for the manner in which they chose to assert them, at least during the early stages of the dispute; and the N.U.D.A.W., irritated by the treatment meted out to them, have been led to challenge principles which they themselves recognize as reasonable in negotiations with other employers.

A PROPOSAL has been made by the United States Government to permit the carrying of liquor under seal within the three-mile limit if the other maritime Powers will grant to them the right to search for and to seize contraband articles in ships approaching within twelve miles of the United States. It is not, apparently, intended to modify in any permanent sense the existing international law, but to negotiate specific treaties for a definite term. That the Americans are now willing to discuss the question is a welcome advance upon their attitude hitherto. It will not be easy, however, for Great Britain to adopt this particular proposal immediately after her firm stand against Russian encroachments upon international waters. Nor is it by any means the most satisfactory way of dealing with the problem. The time is ripe for a reconsideration of the code governing international intercourse by ocean routes and to clear it of ambiguities which may lead to more serious friction in the future. The interests affected in the present case are of much less importance than the principle involved, and we hope that the British Government will make another effort to get an international conference on the general issue.

MEANWHILE, the Shipping Board has to face the problem whether, under any conditions, American shipping can be run to pay. The Board is losing heavily on its operations; the shipowners will not buy the ships at any but scrap prices unless, by hook or crook, the preferences embodied in the defunct Subsidy Bill can be secured. Mr. Lasker's latest proposal involves scrapping a part of the Government fleet, and the placing of a further large proportion "in reserve." Meanwhile, the President is again being urged to extend the coastwise shipping laws to the Philippines. Such a measure would strengthen the hands of our own Protectionists, who have long been clamouring, in direct opposition to our leading shipowners, for reservation of the inter-Empire We hope Americans will think twice before taking a step towards the resurrection of the old Colonial System, with all its inevitable economic waste and possibilities of political friction.

OUR IRISH CORRESPONDENT writes:-

When Mr. Larkin returned to Ireland I ventured to prophesy that before very long he would do something drastic. For a time this prophecy did not seem to be fulfilled; he contented himself with 'looking round ' and making speeches of a vaguely pacific nature. Signs have not been wanting, however, that he has been strengthening his position with the rank and file of Labour; and within the last few days he has apparently resolved upon a test of this strength. He has accordingly brought forward, after the best Irish precedents, all the most violent charges of fraud and dishonesty which could be imagined against the Executive officers of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union (of which he is himself General Secretary), and has declared that the Executive is dissolved and all the management of its affairs confided into his own hands. He proceeds to make this ukase practically effective by forcibly locking out the deposed officials from the head office in Parnell Square—an action which appears to have been followed by a strike of most of the clerical staff. It seems that Ireland can never be without her Cromwell. The remainder of this particular episode is, however, apparently to be fought out in the law courts rather than by gun-play. One wonders what attitude will be taken up by the political leaders of the Labour Party, who have presumably been in hopes that they might keep this particular skeleton in its proper cupboard until after the

J

Rep

this

pru

Fra

Cor

Ear

car

mu

str

pa

ab

to

sti

di

bı

ne

THE DIPLOMACY OF REPARATIONS.

The new German Note affords as fair a basis for the settlement of the economic problem of Reparations as it is within the power of any German Government to give. This is universally admitted by British public opinion. For the first time a stage has been reached at which the choice between alternative policies is clear. We cannot dissociate ourselves from the affairs of the Continent and the working out of the Treaty of Versailles, as the Americans have done. We must either seek a conference with Germany and throw in our influence on the side of a business settlement; or take our stand with France.

What does France want? M. Poincaré's declared policy is to bring about the capitulation of Germany and the signature by the German Government of a blank cheque which has no relation (to quote a semi-official French statement) to "Germany's so-called capacity of payment";—a repetition, that is to say, of the Treaty of Versailles. Since Germany has already signed such a document, a second signature would not advance matters. Indeed, as a method of getting paid, M. Poincaré's policy is so unreasonable, that he can only be supposed to aim at its political results.

We must examine, therefore, the fruits of the French plan. Neither the Government of Dr. Cuno, nor any other responsible Government representing a majority bloc of the Reichstag, can concede the French terms. But the prestige of Dr. Cuno's administration is not impregnable; the economic situation of Germany is bad; and the psychological situation very bad. If the French persevere with their pressure, and if Germany receives no encouragement from other quarters, the collapse of the present régime can be brought about in time. In this event the French terms would be subscribed by a Government of Communists and Social-Democrats of the extreme Left,-though not, of course, with the intention of paying. The Allies have the choice of payment from Dr. Cuno or a signature from the Communists à la Russe. The advent to the Wilhelmstrasse of a Government of the extreme Left would yield a paper victory for France and a paper promise from Germany. It would probably be accompanied by disorder in many parts of Germany. But the consequences would not end there. The most lasting effect would be found in a weakening of the authority of the Central Government, and perhaps its complete disintegration. Berlin might sign; but, if so, the rest of the country would repudiate Berlin's authority. Berlin is weak already, and the tendency towards local independence is strong. We should see, therefore in what precise form one cannot predicta weakening of the federal structure and a practical autonomy amongst the States; one Government in Bavaria, another in Saxony, a third in East Prussia; with the Rhinelands, and even the Ruhr, a province of the French Empire,-until a new Bismarck arose and a new war. Reparations would be at an end, except in so far as France could exploit her new territory, or levy a tribute from the more accessible of the other States by recurrent threats of rapine, as the Goths did in the fifth century from the provinces of Rome. This, however, would be a secondary and disappearing feature of the new settlement. The main fact would be the de-

vertebration of the German Reich, and the establishment by France of a military Empire in Europe beyond challenge by any visible forces. France would have achieved what Germany was broken in attempting.

Such a project is capable of achievement. M. Poincaré may be deliberately pursuing it. In the light of history it is not improbable. Indeed, it is the old story. We are too much inclined in England to discredit the reality of aims which are not ours. We could not believe before the war that Germany was as stupidly bad as she told us she was; and now, ten years later, we cannot believe that France is as stupidly bad as M. Poincaré tells us she is.

Probably France as a whole is not what M. Poincaré makes her out. In a sense no country ever has a fixed policy. People's heads are not clear; some want one thing and some another; and everybody is susceptible to atmosphere and to the progress of events. But a point has been reached when we must be prepared to face the possibility of a European policy on the part of the French Government directly opposed to ours, and must consider what action we can take in such an event.

The break-up of the Reich is no part of the policy of Great Britain. Politically, socially, and economically such a dénouement is dangerous to our interests. But we object for deeper reasons. Englishmen are very sincere in certain idealisms which they have cherished since the awfulness of war broke on them. We are not cynical enough to give them up without an upheaval of emotions which have more depth and disinterestedness than other countries may suspect.

Mr. Baldwin's Government will have, therefore, the support of the great majority of Englishmen if they re-enter the European arena with the determination to promote a settlement along the lines offered by Germany. If they have not the courage or the resource to do so, the opposition parties in this country must fight a great political battle to bring into office a Government which has. In the meantime, we have reason to credit Mr. Baldwin with good intentions. This being assumed, what can he do?

The first step is not difficult. He can state England's policy in plain language. He can say that, so far as we are concerned, Germany's Note offers an acceptable basis of negotiation, and that we concur with her in thinking that the time has come for oral discussion. We must not act without first endeavouring to secure joint action with our former Allies. But we do not need to wait for this before stating our policy. M. Poincaré has no delicacy in such matters; nor should we have. Open speech is required, both to stabilize the precarious position in Germany pending developments, and to indicate to France that the period of our quiescence is at an end. France will endeavour to prevent Mr. Baldwin from speaking out by hinting that this will only make subsequent conversations more difficult. Let him not be taken in by this old diplomatic trick. A bold word now will make his future negotiations easier.

The next step is to secure the support of those who fundamentally agree with us, namely, Belgium and Italy. Neither of these countries has the slightest motive for wishing to sacrifice the actual receipt of

ent

nd

ave

in-

of

ry.

the

ot

dly

we

M.

in-

a

int

p-

ut

to

of

nd

at.

Cy

lly

ut

ry

ed

ot

al

d-

e,

ey

to

у.

0,

at

ch

r.

d,

g-

t-

er

n.

re

ed

ré

e.

19

n

n

0

10

Reparation-money to French political aims. To gain this support should, therefore, be within the compass of prudent diplomacy. Once this support is secured, France finds herself in a minority on the Reparation Commission. We shall do well, in this case, to follow M. Poincaré's example of acting on our juridical rights. Earlier conferences were rendered sterile by a polite convention that all decisions must be unanimous. M. Poincaré broke this convention and voted us down. We must be prepared, if we can, to do the same to him.

Whilst we take measures to augment our diplomatic strength, we must simultaneously woo France and be prepared to act by her with generosity in return for concessions to our point of view. But it is useless to speak her fair, unless at the same time we indicate what our course will be if she does not receive us fair. We have abundant evidence by now that to make free concessions to France does not mollify her in the least and only stiffens her presumption.

The means of pressure and inducement at our command are not very great. Nevertheless, there is scope for diplomacy. France's aims are not one and immovable, but many and subject to change. And whilst there is no visible force in Europe able to stand up to her, her strength will be steadily sapped by those invisible forces which ultimately destroy all seekers after the excessive.

THE POSITION OF AGRICULTURE.

When the last "crisis" in Agriculture was at its height—or depth—farmers derived much satisfaction from a journalistic quip that the "Agricultural Outlook" was "a peep from the workhouse window." This was in the "inineties," when the evidence of agricultural distress was patent throughout the country in vacant farms and derelict land. The present crisis is as sunlight unto moonlight compared with that, or with the previous crisis of the early "eighties." Nevertheless, it is undeniable that many farmers are in serious financial difficulty, and that the position of Agriculture generally demands anxious consideration.

The immediate troubles arise mainly from temporary causes. The general slump in prices has affected farming in precisely the same way as other industries. The sudden depreciation of capital, the fall in the value of products, with the inevitable lag in reduced costs of production, brought heavy loss, and in many cases bankruptcy, to every kind of enterprise. The ill-fated intervention of the Government, by the Agriculture Act and its swift repeal, aggravated the situation for those farmers who bought their holdings at the top of the "boom." This has been an additional cause of This has been an additional cause of trouble to probably 10 per cent. of the present occupiers of farms. When to these sublunary influences the British climate contributed two seasons of unusual capriciousness, it is not surprising that the lament of the agriculturists are loud and long.

But sympathy with those farmers who have fallen on evil times, and who, it is to be feared, may not, in some cases, survive them, forms a treacherous basis on which to build a policy for the future. It is a hard saying, but a true one, that "the game is more than the players of the game, and the ship is more than the crew." The misfortunes of individuals, under the stress of abnormal

conditions, must be regarded as distressing incidents in the history of Agriculture and not as determining its future course.

What is the plain truth, disentangled from adventitious circumstances, about the position of British Agriculture? It may be very shortly stated. Agriculture is now in practically the same position as before the war, allowing for the contraction in the total area farmed, caused by the encroachment of the towns. The area of arable land is slightly larger, both absolutely and relatively, but, on the other hand, the number of sheep is substantially less. The acreage under corn and potatoes was a little more in 1922 than in 1914, but it is probable that the returns for this year-now being collected-will show a reduction. So far as the situation is statistically measurable, therefore, there is no reason for panic, or justification for wild headlines about the disappearance of Agriculture. The disappearance of a certain number of agriculturists, and their replacement by others, is a tragic episode not infrequent in the long history of the precarious pursuit of farming. But men may come and men may go; Agriculture remains, and the problem before this generation is to consider in what guise and under what system it is to be continued.

To the solution of this problem neither the "Tribunal" of Economists, nor the Government, acting, or not acting, on their advice, has made any effective contribution. The reduction of local rates on agricultural land, the provision of certain more or less helpful facilities for borrowing money, and even a duty on malting barley, may afford some alleviation of present difficulties, but the most friendly commentator could not describe them as constituting a constructive policy for The problem involves much deeper and Agriculture. wider issues. The whole land system is challenged. It has survived, on the whole successfully, many vicissitudes, by its adaptability to changing conditions. The whole of the law and practice affecting the tenure of farms has been gradually changed, and tenants' rights are now as definite as landlords'. By the multiplication of small holdings and allotments some progress, at least, has been made towards restoring to the people that access to the land of which they were largely deprived by enclosure. The proved adaptability of our land system is of good omen for its continuance, but it will not survive if it becomes stereotyped. Those are its worst friends who shut their eyes to the signs of the times.

The first point to decide is the place and purpose of Agriculture in Great Britain in the twentieth century. On this, two principles may be postulated. With a steadily diminishing area available for production, and a steadily increasing population, the notion that it is practicable to ensure against war-risks by any artificial adjustment of our agricultural system merely complicates, without assisting, the solution of the problem. The second principle, which is consequential, is that all land suitable for production must be properly used for that purpose, so that, as far as the limited area permits, the largest possible proportion of the population may be kept on the land. Agriculture must be regarded as a social, as well as an economic, factor in the organization of the community.

It is on these lines, and from this standpoint, that the resolution adopted by the National Liberal Federation at Buxton proceeded. It stated, as an axiom, that land must be put to its fullest economic use. Socialists would attempt to ensure this by making the State the universal landlord and farmer. Liberalism, by its essentially different principles, would preserve private enterprise, but would make the rights of individuals sub-

servient to the needs of the community. In other words, owners and occupiers would be held responsible that the land under their control was used and not wasted. Having secured the national interests, the Buxton resolution put in the second place the interest of the workers. That is the practical application of the specious but superficial slogan of "the land for the people." When all provision has been made to enable men to own or occupy land as small holdings or allotments, there will still remain the wage-earners. They must be assured of a fair share and reasonable interest in the result of their labour, by the protection of a minimum wage, and by linking their efforts to the success of the enterprise of which they are an indispensable part.

When these basic principles have been accepted, the question of State assistance to Agriculture will assume a new aspect. It is clear that such assistance cannot affect prices; the products of the land must be marketed under free competition. There are, however, many minor measures the adoption of which would remove some of the obstacles in the way of agricultural development. Prominent amongst them is the readjustment of national and local taxation so as to encourage the investment of capital in farms and farming. Transport facilities and charges—so vital to the producers of perishable products-provide a wide field for favourable, if not preferential, treatment. Co-operation offers advantages to farmers which, so far, they have been reluctant to secure, though the State can do little to overcome inveterate individualism.

When all has been done to adjust our agricultural system to modern requirements, it still remains that success in farming depends on the enterprise, skill, and knowledge of the individual. The hope of the land is in the men who use it. Those who decry the competence of the average farmer in the past are ill-informed as to his achievements. The younger generation will be not less competent, but they will be equipped with the knowledge of the mysteries of the soil, of the growth of crops and the breeding of animals, which is year by year placed in The future of growing measure at their disposal. Agriculture is not unclouded, but the sun of scientific research illumines the prospect, and reveals possibilities of increased production from the soil beyond the most sanguine visions of the past.

HENRY REW.

THE REVOLUTION IN BULGARIA.

The evil genius of the Near East (whatever god he may be) is indefatigable. For months he has been amusing himself by baffling the clumsy and half-hearted efforts of Turkey, Greece, and the Principal Allied Powers to lay him by the heels at Lausanne; and now it appears that he has only been permitting them to tether one of his legs in order to deliver a vigorous kick with the other in an unexpected quarter. How much of the mud-brick, jerry-built peace-structure has the Bulgarian Revolution carried away with it? It is too early yet to indulge in dismal forebodings, but there is no doubt that the better relationship between Bulgaria and Jugo-Slavia, which seemed to be shaping itself, is in danger of being twisted awry again.

It looked like one of the few happy coincidences in Near Eastern politics that Mr. Stambolisky, with his almost superhumanly thorough policy of abnegation in Macedonia, should be in power at Sofia at the moment when the issue between centralism and federalism was coming to a head in Belgrade. With the Bulgarian

Government so palpably eager to make friends and even to pay the price for that privilege, it was difficult for Serbian Chauvinists to draw the red herring of "Macedonia in danger" across the track of internal politics; and if the Jugo-Slav devolutionists could get a fair field they had a prospect of carrying the day, with consequences which, in turn, might have reacted favourably upon the internal position of Bulgaria. Macedonia as an autonomous unit, on a par with Croatia, in a Jugo-Slav Federal State could not make the hearts of Bulgars burn within them, as they are bound to do while Macedonia is being colonized by Serbian settlers and held down by Serbian garrisons. By Mr. Stambolisky's tact and Croatia's efforts Bulgaria might have secured that programme of Macedonian autonomy which she had presented, before the Balkan War, to the Concert of Europe; and the decentralization of Jugo-Slavia. the larger of these two Slavonic States, might have pointed the way to a subsequent affiliation of Bulgaria, the smaller one, to a group which, in an autonomous Macedonia, would already have included a Bulgarian member. Even short of this, Bulgaria would at least have approached one step nearer towards membership in the Little Entente; and since Greece, sobered by her Anatolian disaster, was agreeing quickly with Jugo-Slavia over Salonika, while she was in the way with her, and was making up her mind to put an end to her recent isolation, there seemed a distinct tendency towards that South-East European rapprochement which is needed, sooner or later, to fulfil the functions of the deceased Hapsburg Empire and the shrivelled Turkey-in-Europe.

How many of these possibilities will the Bulgarian Revolution have cut short? In answering this question the student of Near Eastern history will probably be less pessimistic than the layman. To the unaccustomed eye it would seem self-evident that the Revolution is a protest against Mr. Stambolisky's conciliatory foreign policy, and that Bulgaria has made up her mind to abandon a course which has forced her to co-operate with the Serbs in suppressing the struggle for independence kept up by her sons in Macedonia, and to see her former territory of Karagach transferred from her exenemy Greece to her ex-ally Turkey. This may, unfortunately, be the explanation; yet in all Near Eastern countries the feuds between persons or groups of persons have so much more reality than the conflicts of party or principle in our Western sense of the terms, and at the same time have so little relation to these latter, that it is always safer to look in the first instance not at measures, but at men, and to assume that the new men will take over the old policy (like the old debts and deficits) until events demonstrate the contrary.

The fall of M. Venizelos, for example, two and a half years ago, was neither preceded nor followed by a change of mind on the part of the Greek nation towards the Venizelist policy in Asia Minor. The Constantinian Government did not come into power because Greece was war-weary; and while it was turning Venizelists out of office it was duly carrying on their war in Anatolia to its appointed disaster. The change of personnel was the object of the Revolution, and was a sufficient end in itself. The men who carried it out were not thinking of what they themselves would be doing in Asia Minor two years later, but of what M. Venizelos had done at Salonika and Athens three years before. They wanted revenge, not reconstruction; or, in more precise terms, they wanted to exchange their places of imprisonment and exile with the personal rivals who had placed them there.

This recent Greek parallel throws light on present events in Bulgaria; for though MM. Venizelos and

en

or

of

al

et

th

ır-

nia

a

of

do

ers

00-

ch

n-

ia.

ve

ia,

ous

an

ast

in

ner

go-

er,

ent

nat

ed,

sed

pe.

ian

ion

be

ned

s a

ign

to

ate

en-

her

ex-

or-

ern

ons

or

the

t it

at

nen

and

d a

by

ion

The

wer

ing

war

of

as a

vere

g in

elos

ore.

ore

s of

had

sent

and

Stambolisky differ greatly in physique, character, and career, there were remarkable points of resemblance in their post-war positions. Both were isolated figures, themselves men of exceptional force and ability, but surrounded by third-rate supporters, and with nearly all the second-rate politicians of their respective countries in obstinate opposition. In this difficult situation both statesmen were driven to employ more and more highhanded methods at home, and each hoped to retain or regain his popularity with the mass of his fellowcountrymen by striking successes abroad. In the event, neither has been successful, and M. Venizelos was actually damaged at home by the consideration which his foreign colleagues loved to lavish upon him. His countrymen took it ill that Greece should receive benefits for Venizelos's sake rather than Venizelos for that of Hellas. Possibly Mr. Stambolisky, who has made his own mark in his pilgrimage round the capitals of Europe, may have suffered from the same cause especially since his post-war foreign policy was not nationalist and grandiose, like that of his Greek contemporary, but ran counter not only to the Bulgarian but to the entire Near Eastern tradition.

We have now to see whether Mr. Stambolisky's successors will be content merely to change places with him, or whether they will proceed to reverse the present relations of Bulgaria with her neighbours. It may be that Mr. Stambolisky's policy will be recognized by them, if not as satisfactory, at least as being less unpleasant in its consequences than any alternative. Post-war Bulgaria may not yet have secured an outlet to the Ægean or autonomy for Macedonia, but at least she has reduced her Reparations bill by 75 per cent., and has not seen Jugo-Slav or Roumanian garrisons quarter themselves in her Ruhrs and Rhinelands. No Government at Sofia with any vestige of common sense deliberately jeopardize these negative extremely valuable blessings. It is not certain, however, whether the new Government are free agents, or whether they may not have bought their victory over the Agrarians by selling themselves to the Macedonian and Thracian Irredentists.

In their first proclamations the new Government have declared that their action has nothing to do either with Irredentism or with foreign affairs, and that it is purely a domestic concern of Bulgaria within her present frontiers; and, although they were bound to say this in any case, it is not, as has been pointed out, so unlikely as at first sight appears. The domestic feud was unmistakably there, as was witnessed by the imprisonment and impeachment of several sets of ex-Ministers and by the state of siege in which Stambolisky was latterly living. It was a personal vendetta, going back, like that in Greece, to acute differences of opinion as to which side it was more profitable to take in the European War; and in the case of Bulgaria the personal factions partly coincide with the division between two social groups or Bulgaria, Serbia, and Greece are sometimes described as democratic countries, in contrast to Roumania and Turkey with their landed or official aristocracies. But the contrast is misleading if it is meant to imply that the three former countries are socially more homogeneous than the two latter. In all Near Eastern countries alike there is the same main social cleavage, and it is a profound one; but it is not the distinction between aristocrat and commoner, but that between the Western-educated intelligentzia and the more or less unsophisticated mass of the population. Mr. Stambolisky represented the Bulgarian peasant against the exotic bourgeois who had come back from Europe with Western political ideas and aspired to

sacrifice the peasants' blood and treasure in order to achieve the national unity of the fatherland. But how could the peasantry have succumbed to the intelligentzia now unless the latter had found allies in the Irredentists -those refugee-peasants from beyond the frontier who have learnt nationalism not from foreign political theorists, but in the practical school of foreign misgovernment? For months past the Irredentists have maintained a virtually independent Government of their own in the districts adjoining the south-western frontier. Professor Zankoff's new Government at Sofia can hardly be so unconnected with this movement as he would have us believe; and if the Macedonians come into the saddle in Bulgaria we must look for trouble-for these are fanatics with a righteous cause. The Balkan principalities are still infested by the spirits which plagued the Houses of Atreus and Thyestes. Retribution follows on retribution, woe on woe, and one beacon fire answers to another. The flame lit in Asia Minor (not this time at Troy, but at Angora) has already crossed the Hellespont, but it is mounting the valley of the Maritsa and travelling north-westward instead of leaping across the Ægean towards Argos. Will it flare up next in Hungary, Silesia, and Bavaria?

ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE.

LIFE AND POLITICS

Tuesday's debate on the so-called "McKenna duties" places the prospective Chancellor in an uncommonly awkward position. The Government spokesmen made it clear that they mean to maintain these duties, which they defended for the first time by ordinary Protectionist arguments. But Mr. McKenna is deeply committed to their abolition. In introducing them as a war measure, he promised that they would not be continued when the war was over, and went out of his way to challenge future quotation of his words. Only two years ago, when detached from politics, he complained that this pledge, which he implied was binding on his successors, had not been honoured by them. In these circumstances, it would be intolerable if Mr. McKenna, on becoming Chancellor, were to justify the continuance of these duties. Such sophistry would be peculiarly repugnant in so extreme a critic of the lack of principle of the Georgian régime. It is essential, in fact, to Mr. McKenna's reputation for political honesty, that he should make the abolition of the duties a condition of accepting office. But the Conservative rank and file are in no mood for such concessions. The Diehards certainly would like to scotch the McKenna Chancellorship, and put Mr. Amery in the vacant place. Government's attitude towards France is another source of serious Diehard unrest, likely to flame up at any moment into open Parliamentary revolt. The situation is a testing one for Mr. Baldwin. If he is to have any chance of fulfilling the good intentions which have won for his Premiership such a favourable reception in the country, he must face at once a breach with the Diehards, and risk many withdrawals from his Government. Is he man enough for this?

THE "Times" has published a series of leading articles on the German Note and on British relations to France which have been models of what a "Times" leader should be, now that the great paper has returned

to its rôle of expressing with dignity and moderation the prevailing opinion of the governing circles of the country. How wonderful a relief to read the truth again in daily print!-

"The French public have, to our mind, an almost fantastic notion of what Germany can pay now and in the next few years. They seem to hold the view that they, a victorious nation, cannot pay a pound of their debts to us or a dollar to the United States; yet they are convinced that Germany, who is utterly defeated, can pay almost incalculable sums. There was a time when they were not alone in their error. It was Mr. Lloyd George who first demanded these huge amounts; who insisted, against the terms of the Armistice, on the inclusion of pensions in the bill; who left to the French Government, with their vast devastated areas before their eyes and with priority refused to them, no option but to make claims even more extravagant than at one time were our own "—The "Times," June 11th, 1923.

Magna est Veritas et praevalebit!

THE response which this leader in the "Times" drew from Mr. Lloyd George well illustrates the reasons which so many people feel for hesitating to co-operate with him. If Mr. Lloyd George had admitted that he had changed his mind about Reparations, everyone would have respected the admission. But the preposterous statement that he had never been responsible for demanding from Germany more than £2,500,000,000 can only lower him in the public view. Apart from the ultimatums of 1921, which demanded much larger sums, the American representatives at the Peace Conference have narrated that the lowest figure he would then contemplate was double the above sum.

THE London School of Economics is becoming a focus of entertaining literary discussion. Last week we had Mr. Asquith, Mr. Gardiner, and Mr. Guedalla on biography; next Tuesday the Duke of Northumberland and Mr. Oswald Mosley are to debate the question "Will the ape and tiger ever die?" this week Miss Rebecca West and Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith discussed whether there is any alternative to the "sex novel." If by this question we mean "Is a novel possible which is primarily not a love-story?" the answer must surely be, "Of course." Any number could be named, including even one story in which the only woman character is quite unimportant and only appears in the opening chapter, namely, "Treasure Island." The seriously literary minority will read a novel that embodies any idea or experience which is sufficiently interesting intrinsically and in treatment. The would-be author of a bestseller, however, unless he be a Stevenson, had better confine himself to the love-story. For his readers are inspired by a desire not so much for literary pleasure in the real sense as for an indirect experience of sensations from which their workaday life shuts them off. The books they like are the books which are the same as, but better than, their daydreams.

JULIEN VIAUD, an officer in the French Navy, and almost as well known in this country as his own under the name of "Pierre Loti," rather outlived his fame. The mood of the last few years has not been a romantic one, and for some reason or other that note of pity for pleasures that must inevitably pass, for the strange and rare and fleeting seen always under the shadow of death, has momentarily had its day. Pierre Loti was not a great writer, but Chateaubriand was his master, and he could write most musical and haunting prose. He could

do more than that. Though not in himself simple, he could portray simple characters, especially when he placed them, as he loved to do, in settings unfamiliar to his readers. His novels are little more than romantic recollections, and whatever their settings-Iceland, Africa, Japan, the Pyrenees, Turkey-the theme is always the same, that of man, the disillusioned adventurer, and woman, the simple and childish embodiment of trustful love—" femmes de rêve, créatures à peine ébauchées." It is not perhaps surprising that our delight in effects so obviously gained has faded; yet most men who have read them would confess to remembering some of his scenes long after those of subtler, more up-to-date novelists have passed completely away.

MISS SITWELL'S musical divertissement "Façade," given at the Æolian Hall on Tuesday, was an extremely fresh and original performance. Miss Sitwell recited down the Sengerphone some thirty poems from her latest volume, "Bucolic Comedies" (Duckworth), latest volume, set to music by Mr. W. T. Walton. There is a metallic glitter about Miss Sitwell's verse which lends itself particularly well to such an interpretation. individual recitals naturally varied in merit, the rhythm being on some occasions a trifle obvious and monotonous. But many of the poems, among which may be particularly mentioned "Madame Mouse Trots," "Trio for Two Cats and a Trombone," "Hornpipe," and "Beelzebub," were extremely varied and delicate in their rhythmical appeal. Mr. Osbert Sitwell, in a short foreword, insisted on the elimination of the reciter's personality as one of the chief advantages of this method of presentation. Up to a point we can heartily agree, but it is possible that even more effect might have been produced had the Sengerphone recitation been accompanied by some sort of highly conventionalized mimicry. Mr. W. T. Walton showed himself an accomplished and various musician, well able to weld his music into the spirit of Miss Sitwell's engaging and peculiar art. As this is the first, though one may hope not the last, performance that Miss Sitwell has given, a few words of advice may perhaps be humbly proffered. It seemed that she spoke a little too loud, becoming less rather than more audible in consequence, while the performance, as a whole, was so exhilarating that both audience and reciter were somewhat exhausted at the end. "Façade" is caviare, and best in not too large doses. But the whole experiment constituted far more than a mere "stunt." It is capable, one feels confident, of being developed into a serious art form. A particular word of praise must be reserved to Mr. Dobson for his really beautiful curtain.

Duse's return in Ibsen's "Lady from the Sea" was a beautiful breath of the past. She still has that wise truth in her gestures and words that only talent can give. The play itself seemed dim and a little empty. Duse's method of the quietness of life, imposed on her company as well as on herself, emphasized too much Ibsen's realism at the expense of his poetry. Her physical weakness and flagging vitality could not quite sustain the mad intensity of Ellida. But her movements brought back the forgotten graces of the 'eighties. One understood that the fashion of an age goes deeper than dress. Her rhythm may be different from ours,perhaps in us it is of a more complicated order. But after all, we were in sympathy with her, and she did create an emotion in all those present.

OMICRON.

he

he to

tic

ıd,

is

nt ne nr

ost

ng

re

ly

ed

er

lic

lf

he

m

ıs.

or

0-

ir e-

r-

od

e.

n

n-

y .

d 10

t.

t,

d

er

d

e

0

e

t

t

h

e

"MOLL FLANDERS"*

BY THE RIGHT HON. AUGUSTINE BIRRELL.

"'So you think there is no harm in stealing?'
"'No harm in the world, dear! Do you think my
own child would have been transported for it if there
had been any harm in it? And what's more, would
the blessed woman in the book here have written her
life as she has done, and given it to the world, if there
had been any harm in faking? She, too, was what they
call a thief, and a cut-purse; ay, and was transported
for it, like my dear son; and do you think she would
have told the world so, if there had been any harm
in the thing? Oh, it is a comfort to me that the blessed
woman was transported and came back, for come back
she did, and rich too—for it is an assurance to me that
my dear son, who was transported too, will come back, my dear son, who was transported too, will come back, like her.'

What was her name?'

"' What was her name?'
"' Her name, blessed Mary Flanders.'
"' Yes, dear, that I will, if you will promise me not to run away with it."
"I took the book from her hand; a short, thick volume, at least a century old, bound with greasy black leather. I turned the yellow and dog's-eared pages, reading here and there a sentence. Yes, and no mistake! His pen, his style, his spirit, might be observed in every line of the uncouth-looking old volume—the air, the style, the spirit of the writer of the book which first taught me to read. I covered my face with my hand and thought of my childhood.
"'This is a singular book,' said I at last, 'but it

"'This is a singular book,' said I at last, 'but it does not appear to have been written to prove that thieving is no harm, but rather to show the terrible

consequences of crime; it contains a deep moral.'
"'A deep what, dear?'
"'A--but no matter. I will give you a crown for this volume.

this volume.'

"' No, dear, I will not sell the volume for a crown.'

"' I am poor,' said I, 'but I will give you two
silver crowns for your volume.'

"' No, dear, I will not sell my volume for two
silver crowns; no, nor for the golden one in the King's
tower down there. Without my book I should mope and
pine, and perhaps fling myself into the river.'"—
"Lavengro," vol. ii. pp. 31-32.

This is a long quotation to begin with. But what is to be done? Moll Flanders requires an introduction to polite society, even in these unsqueamish days, and if her reputation can be vouched for by one who was neither prig nor pedant, but an English author wielding a pen, owning a style, and infusing an air and a spirit as haunting and pervasive as De Foe's own, to wit, by George Borrow in the enchanted pages of "Lavengro," what choice had we, though at the risk of making all that comes after as dull as ditch-water, but to begin with the old woman on London Bridge?

The "Moll Flanders" of Constable & Co., 1923, is a very different-looking volume from the one George Borrow in 1824 discovered in the hands of the old woman on London Bridge, which was (at least, we hope so) an unexpurgated copy of the first edition of 1721:

The book now before our admiring gaze is not bound in "greasy black leather," and is, indeed, so elegantly apparelled, and so magnificently printed in large, clear type on noble paper, as to make it impossible to believe that even a hundred years hence its pages should ever become yellow or dogs'-eared. Moll Flanders, after more than two centuries, makes her first appearance in Court dress, with feathers and train.

As staunch admirers of the singular and lasting merits of this great novel, we do not grudge Moll Flanders a single one of her fine feathers, provided that it is always understood that a fine bird she never can become. To think so of her, even for a moment,

would be to destroy the whole structure of the tale. Born in Newgate, the child of a thief whose life was spared but to give birth to a daugher, Moll Flanders remained to the end of her days quintessentially a gaol-

De Foe, the most truthful and the least sentimental of all British novelists-one who never exhibits that deplorable weakness of too many of his craft, that of falling in love, as their work progresses, with their own creatures-would have been the first to resent any attempt to reconstruct his Moll as a "fair penitent," or to make her figure on a religious platform in a purity campaign. As De Foe never permitted Moll Flanders to tell lies about herself, to herself, so he refrained from telling such lies himself. It ought not to be too much to expect from novelists that they should be true, if not to themselves, at least to their own figments.

From 1721 to 1923, though not a long, is yet, in literary history, a considerable period. Addison, Steele, Swift, and De Foe were contemporary writers, all busily at work in London not many years before the appearance of "Robinson Crusoe" and "Moll Flanders" -and all four are still in the full enjoyment of their reputations, and are known, at least by name, to more millions of mankind than they were to thousands in their

Literary reputations are curious things, and are secured by very different methods. De Foe's main reputation rests, and will probably ever rest, on one book out of the many hundreds he wrote-the famous "Crusoe," the permanent romance of English boyhood, written at the mature age of fifty-eight by a man who had already composed more "poetry" (in bulk) than Milton and Dryden when put together, and who was, in short, the most unromantic author that ever drew his breath in these islands.

"Robinson Crusoe" was, like the "Gulliver's Travels" of the haughty Dean (who could never bring himself to pronounce the name of the man destined to be his coeval in fame), really popular in the true sense of the word. The people of fashion also read "Gulliver" on its first appearance, for it fed their spleen and nourished their hatreds; but after a while they abandoned it to the juvenile population, who have clung to it ever since. In France and Germany both "Gulliver" and "Robinson" have long enjoyed a far wider fame than usually falls to the lot of the English author; and to this day, in France, "Robinson," as he is called, his surname presenting some difficulties of pronunciation, has a larger, in the sense of a more regular, sale than any similar production of British manufacture. But, apart from "Crusoe," it would be hard to define De Foe's literary position even in his own country. We shall not attempt to do so, for we have already kept Moll Flanders waiting for recognition in her new clothes for a most unconscionable long time.

Has "Moll Flanders" ever been widely read? She has seldom been pronounced upon by any of our usual critical pundits. Hazlitt dismisses her, in the grim pages of the "Edinburgh Review" (January, 1830), as "utterly vile and detestable"; but then an enslaved admirer of Rousseau could not be expected to abide so vigorous an exponent of the great doctrine of "antihumbug" as was Moll Flanders. Charles Lamb, in one of his letters to Walter Wilson, declares "De Foe was

^{*&}quot;The Fortunes and Misfortunes of the Famous Moll Flanders."
By Daniel De Foe. Reprinted from the First Edition, 1721, by
Constable & Co (24s.)

always my darling"; but we cannot call to mind any occasion when he refers to Moll Flanders otherwise than merely by name. Lamb seems to have preferred "Colonel Jack" and "Roxana." As for Sir Walter Scott, he was more taken up with the apparition of the famous Mrs. Veal in her "scoured silk dress" to Mrs. Bargrave than with the flesh-and-blood reality of Moll Flanders.

But now, putting aside everything else, we must approach the lady herself, though the thought of doing so makes us all of a shiver. Perhaps it is her fine clothes that make us so unaccountably shy. In other garb we have often felt quite at home with her, but now, like young Marlow in "She Stoops to Conquer," who, when confronted with "a modest woman in all her finery," felt that he was in the presence of "one of the most tremendous objects in creation," we are more than half inclined to run away. Not that our poor Moll was ever a "modest" woman; but rigged out by her present publishers she almost presents the appearance of one.

Yet something must be said on her behalf, and this first of all. De Foe's novel is not a series of sketches, or scenes in the life of a thief and notorious offender against the moral code. It is a whole life, from child-hood to maturity, and is as complete a biography as ever was presented to any reader. Mrs. Fry's biography is not completer. Our next comment is this—it is a book of entire good faith, being severely truthful from first to last. De Foe plays no monkey-tricks with us; and, indeed, at times the sentimentalist within all of us grows angry with the biographer for never withholding or disguising any single weakness or unpleasant trait. You know the very worst of Moll Flanders when, at the last page, you lay the book down. Of how many biographies, real or fictitious, can this be said?

One other word! Moll Flanders should not be judged by the title-page to the first edition, a title-page which, with a courage worthy of De Foe himself, the publishers have reproduced, in facsimile, as a frontispiece to this edition. There on that title-page, staring the reader in the face, stand epitomized in blunt Anglo-Saxon the main features of the life the book proceeds to partate.

Such an epitome may easily raise in the minds of "gentle" readers feelings of active aversion, for does it not record that Moll Flanders "was five times a wife, whereof once to her own brother "? But when the tale is told it will be found that this repellent incident was the least of all poor Moll's offences; for when the pro-hibited connection was formed neither she nor her unhappy relative had or could have had either knowledge or the least suspicion of what they were about. When it did become known, Moll Flanders was terribly upset, and had she been a character in one of Miss Charlotte Yonge's admirable stories she could not have acted with more propriety or promptitude; for as soon as might be, she left the plantation in Virginia where she had been comfortably settled for eight years, and returned to England, alone and unprotected. It is true her sound common sense prevented her from ever growing morbid on the subject-for, as she repeatedly observed, "she had known nothing about it."

From beginning to end it is the character of Moll Flanders that imparts to this strange book its unity and vitality. To supply extracts would do that character much injury, for the incidents, torn from their context, must excite disgust; and it is her truthful comments upon them as they happen one after the other that succeed in lending them not only interest, but even a certain kind of rude dignity.

What sort of a character was hers? That it was a bad one it would be most un-De Foe-like to deny. Cruel she was not, or completely heartless. If the selfish elder brother who first seduced her (no very difficult task, it must be owned) had been sensible enough to marry her and had remained reasonably faithful, he would have had a much better wife than he deserved, for Moll Flanders, like the great Duke of Wellington, was "rich in saving common sense." Her forte was truth, her foibles few in number, and her sins red as scarlet. A motherly woman Moll was not, for though she appears to have secured some sort of provision for all her children, she was well content to dwell apart from them.

There we must leave her to the judgment of her readers. "We ne'er shall see her like again"; for it took two to make Moll Flanders—old Newgate and Daniel De Foe, and both have disappeared for ever.

THE BEGINNINGS OF OPERA IN ENGLAND.

HISTORIANS of music generally tell us that the birth of Opera took place in Florence at the close of the sixteenth century; but there had been a short-lived operatic movement in England some fifty years earlier. Few people who see "A Midsummer Night's Dream" realize that the play of "Pyramus and Thisbe" is a parody of English opera. It was a parody of the musical plays acted by the children of the Chapels Royal. Recite lines from "Tristan and Isolde" without their music, and they will be hardly less ridiculous than those of "Pyramus and Thisbe." What is too silly to be spoken may become sound sense when it is sung; alliteration and repetition, set to music, may have a real emotional value. Few songs from the Elizabethan chorister plays have survived; but they are genuinely beautiful and expressive. What makes them important in the history of opera is that they were not mere incidental music, but part of the drama, just as indispensable to it as Isolde's 'Liebestod." Why they did not lead to further developments at a period when both drama and music were at the height of their achievement in England is not known; the most probable reason is to be found in the jealousy of the professional actors towards the amateurs.

The early history of opera in England is largely a history of amateur effort. After the disappearance of the chorister plays the next step in the direction of opera was made by the Court masques. The masque was from its earliest origins an amateur entertainment. It called in the professional aid of architects and decorators, as well as of musicians and actors, but only in a subordinate capacity. The central interest of the masques lay always in the noble amateurs who danced the principal dances. There were other masques, too, which were performed entirely by amateurs; and the first musicians who wrote music for masques were not the famous writers of anthems and madrigals, but experimenters, who sometimes took a hand in the acting or the scene-painting as well. It was the comic element, the anti-masque, that was professional; and as the reign of Charles I. progresses we can watch the masque becoming more and more professional, more and more a succession of comic episodes, until it degenerates into a sort

The masques at Court, like the plays, came to an end with the beginning of the Civil War. But the idea of the masque was still preserved by the amateurs who had created it. Masques were performed at schools. Shirley, the dramatist, became a schoolmaster, and wrote

1 2

uel

ler

it.

er

ve

oll

ch

er

A

ars

er

m.

er

it.

nd

D.

of

th

78-

ole

at

of

V9

nd

of

en

on

al

ys

nd

ry

ut

3'8

18-

re

ot

he

rs.

of

of

ue

t.

nd

ly

he

ed

ю,

he

ot

ut

ng

t.

gn

n-

ıc-

rt

an

ea.

ho

ls.

te

for his boys "The Contention of Ajax and Ulysses," now remembered only by that glorious ode which Parry set to music in his early days, and "Cupid and Death, both of which were acted during the Commonwealth before D'Avenant had started on his public attempts at opera. D'Avenant had seen the Italian operas acted at the French Court, and he had probably seen Corneille's "Andromède," which was an ingenious attempt to utilize the Italian scenery and machines for a French mythological play with music. His own idea seems, however, to have been entirely original. In bringing out "The Siege of Rhodes" as an opera in 1656 his real object was not so much to establish opera as an English art-form as to get the theatres reopened for the performance of heroic tragedy. "The Siege of Rhodes" bears no resemblance to any libretto of contemporary Italian opera. It reads as if it had been written as a play, and then pulled about in order to make it more suitable for musical setting. This is shown clearly by the sudden appearance of Alphonso's metrical song:-

"How bravely fought the fiery French,
Their bulwark being storm'd!
The colder Almans kept their trench,
By more than valour warm'd."

One could not imagine this being sung to anything but an English ballad tune, though the greater part of the "opera" was probably in the declamatory style which we know from the other works of Lawes and Locke.

D'Avenant's other "moral representations in recitative musick," as he called them, in order to avoid the evil reputation attaching to the theatre, were more in the nature of lecture-recitals in costume than what we should now call operas. But he seems to have had a genuine belief in the new musical style, if we may judge from the words which he puts into the mouth of the Musician in "The Playhouse to Let":—

"Recitative music is not compos'd
Of matter so familiar, as may serve
For every low occasion of discourse.
In Tragedy, the language of the Stage
Is rais'd above the common dialect;
Our passions rising with the height of Verse;
And Vocal Musick adds new wings to all
The flights of Poetry."

Matthew Locke undoubtedly had a strong instinct for dramatic music. It comes out clearly in the music to "Cupid and Death," in his instrumental music for "The Tempest," and in "Psyche," which was an attempt by Shadwell and Locke to make an English opera on the model of the "Psyché" of Molière and Lully. Shadwell has been the butt of all historians of literature; but he had a knowledge of music and a real understanding of how to use music in connection with drama. In the French "Psyché" the drama and the music are in separate compartments; Shadwell alters the play so as to make the music an integral part of it. If we can forget the exaggerated reverence for Shakespeare which was a product of the nineteenth century, and consider the operatic versions of D'Avenant and Shadwell from their own point of view, we can see that they were very effective musical arrangements of material which in its original form was old-fashioned and out of date. Their fault was that they were too effective; they were too professional, with the professional manager's indifference to anything that was not the last new "sensation" in the way of stage machinery. Dryden's "Albion and Albanius" is the worst example of this; Betterton, like the modern manager, simply took what he had seen to be successful in France and transplanted it to London.

It was the amateurs who saved the situation. Purcell's "Dido and Æneas" was composed not for the professional stage, but for a girls' school at Chelsea. It converted Dryden to Purcell's genius; but Purcell never had the opportunity of following up his own ideas. "Dido and Æneas" was never performed again on the stage until two hundred years later. It lasts no more than an hour, but it is a real opera; and even in these days the truth of its dramatic expression is overpowering. Compared with his two conspicuous contemporaries, Purcell has far more sense of the stage than Alessandro Scarlatti, and far more musical originality as well as far deeper emotional power than Lully. He has, too, a much firmer musical technique and command of resource than Gluck, although Gluck had the advantage of another century's experience. Purcell failed not from any fault of his own, but from the indifference of English managers and audiences. D'Avenant was right enough when he made his Player say to the "Housekeeper" of the playhouse:-

"Thou understand'st Recitative Musick
As much as a Dray-horse does Greek."

EDWARD J. DENT.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MR. ASQUITH AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY.

Sir,—In your issue of June 9th you printed a letter, signed "Independent Liberal," which brings a ridiculously false charge against Mr. Asquith and the Buxton meetings of the National Liberal Federation. The writer of the letter declares that "the Buxton meeting" was "the antithesis of the true spirit of Liberalism"; that it forced him to feel that "the Party is heading for disaster and obliteration"; and that it is desirable to make "an emphatic protest against the deplorable line taken by the leaders of the Conference." The excuse offered by "Independent Liberal" for these unhappy shrieks is the fact that Mr. Asquith's speech on June 1st was not chiefly occupied with industrial questions. "Less than one-fifth of it," he says, "is devoted to industrial and social policy"—so many lines to this subject and so many words to that.

I make no complaint of this quantitative measurement. Vernon Lee has recently applied the "statistical test" to literature with delightful and really illuminating results. But if the teaching of a political leader and the whole worth and destiny of a political party are to be tested by the inches or the minutes occupied by particular subjects, I submit that one speech does not provide enough material

for the purpose

Mr. Asquith speaks fairly often. His words are fully reported. If he were to be always saying the same things, people with anonymous signatures would certainly call attention to the fact in the public Press. During the past five weeks Mr. Asquith has spoken at Bournemouth (May 4th), Buxton (June 1st), and Paisley (June 7th). Within this period four subjects have been so conspicuously present either to the public or to the party mind that he was obliged to make some reference to them—namely, the state of Europe, the Indemnity Bill, the new Government, and the internal condition of the Liberal Party. Goaded by the random irrelevancies of "Independent Liberal," I have submitted these three speeches to the quantitative test. Mr. Asquith spoke in all for two hours and a-half, and the times given to the various subjects were as follows:—

The state of Europe	 	***	25	minutes.
The Indemnity Bill	***	***	15	,,
The new Government	 •••	***	10	99
The N.L.F	 ***		5	99
The Liberal Party	 ***	***	25	,,
Industrial Policy	 	***	70	99
			150	

Thus almost half the time occupied by these speeches was given to industrial questions. Is this enough to indi-

cate that Liberalism has some "suggestion to offer"? In the Bournemouth speech (the one shortly preceding Buxton), Mr. Asquith dealt with industrial policy in detail and with very definite emphasis. According to the "Westminster Gazette" of May 5th, he said :-

"During the four years since the Armistice, the industrial and economic policy of Liberalism has been the subject of constant discussion and consultation in our party.... The Liberal industrial policy so evolved, which was formally approved by the National Liberal Federation in 1921, has three main watchwords:—

Partnership in the industrial enterprise.
 Security of livelihood for the worker.
 Public advantage before private profit."

Surely these are the three fundamental ideas of industrial reform? They both cover the ground and go down to the roots. Mr. Asquith went on to expound and illustrate each of the three points. At Buxton, four weeks later, he did not repeat this detailed treatment, but he recalled and summarized it:

"Our industrial policy (he said), which is not a policy of improvised expedients, but has been carefully thought out during these years of opposition—our industrial policy has three watchwords."

He then reaffirmed the three definite guiding ideas, and

"The applications of these general principles, both in industry and in agriculture, are, I think, well summarized in your resolutions,"

thus identifying himself with the resolution, passed by the assembly two days before, which laid stress on "(a) the need for statutory joint councils of employers and workers for the settlement of wages, hours, and other allied questions;
(b) the promotion of profit-sharing and co-partnership;
(c) the public control of trusts and combines; and (d) the rating and taxation of land values."

All this happened before "Independent Liberal" wrote to you, and it ought to have been known to him. Paisley speech, which was made a few days later, only adds emphasis to a case that is already proved.-Yours, &c.,

HAROLD STOREY

THE TRADE BOARDS BILL.

Sir,—On Trade Board questions, as I have good reason to know, Mr. H. B. Usher is very well able to take care of himself. I intervene with this short letter, embodying a Northern view, only because I disagree entirely with your reply to his criticism of that part of the Bill which throws upon the workers in a sweated trade, before they get the protection of a Board, the burden of proof that their wages are unduly low compared with the rates prevailing in other employments which are not specified.

You say that in the long run it is better for the development of the Trade Board system that a new Board should be set up only after the case for it has been publicly thrashed out. That may be academically sound. What it lacks is workshop and back-street realism. The workpeople who will suffer most are just those who are most timid about the public disclosure of their wage facts, because they know perfectly well that their services are the most easily perfectly well that their services are the most easily replaced, and, therefore, the most easily dispensed with. For this and other reasons they are the least disposed to take the initiative in having their case "publicly thrashed out." And even if they had the disposition, where, precisely, is their power?-Yours, &c.,

ALBERT CLAYTON.

Sheffield.

[We do not agree that the new Bill throws either the "burden of proof" or the "initiative" on the workers themselves. It leaves both the initiative and the final decision as to the setting up of a new Trade Board where they are at present, i.e., with the Minister of Labour. The changes it makes in this connection are as follows: (1) It states somewhat more precisely that the Minister must be "of opinion" that the wages prevailing are unduly low; (2) it requires that he should hold a public inquiry. As regards (1), we do not know of any Trade Board that has been set up which the new definition would exclude. The object of (2) is presumably to ensure more adequate opportunity for the statement and consideration of objections. It does not imply that the case must be proved by the kind of detailed evidence that would be necessary in a Court of Law.-ED., THE NATION AND THE ATHENÆUM.]

MISS BENSON AND THE MISSIONARIES.

Sir,-Poor Stella Benson! And why "poor"? Because she has had either such a peculiar and limited experience in China or she has taken there such a warped mind. See her

article "The Teachers" in your issue of May 26th.

I have been over twenty years in China and Japan.

During that time I have indeed, here and there, met a few women who did somewhat resemble one or two of her specimens. But how very few they were, and how very many were those-American and English-who were dignified and satisfied and devoted, and beloved of the Chinese!

But where can Stella Benson have been to have met all these queer folk at once and no others-if, indeed, she did? Really, is this kind of article worthy of a paper like THE NATION AND THE ATHENEUM, which stands for fairness and knowledge?-Yours, &c.,

ENGLISHWOMAN.

THE THEATRE IN FRANCE.

Sir,-May I add a tiny pendant to Mr. Birch's excellent review of the French stage in your issue of the 2nd inst.? The Pitoëffs are at present acting "Liliom," so that even the over-boomed drama of Central Europe is not entirely neglected in Paris .- Yours, &c.,

FRANCIS BIRRELL.

POETRY

SPRING POET'S PASTORAL.

"Spring, the glad Spring!" Nay, Spring is melancholy. Ten thousand poets have sung a pleasing folly. I, lean, light runner, will declare the truth.

Spring is a time of striving, travailing, ruth, Of infancy, and not of triumphing youth (Two Springs there may be, but the first's unluscious). She cries, yearns, wails, aspires, moans, gasps for breath, Like a poor baby betwixt life and death Seeking to grow, and in pain, and woefully conscious.

She is always down in the dumps, or away in a flush, Heart in gold shoes, or flame-high when the South wind flies.

Fire turning to trammelling gloom 'neath sky and green bush, And the human mind goes with her, and suffers likewise.

The bush is not green enough, clouds fleck the skies, And harper and troubadour, good journalist (The bad lie abed) wail to God, clench a fist, And wish she'd have done with her tricks and her lies.

All's well in the morning when the sun shines And you rise fresh, and early go seek Earth's fair violet; But at three in the afternoon how the soul pines! And so heavy those sins that we fain would forget!

For then, when the woodlands are wanning and wet, And the sleet flies down past the feathery larches, All frail life sobbing 'neath budding tree-arches, I wish I were back in old-fashioned December, Roasting a nut on a hot Christmas ember, Or hurrahing the gale and the wild white smother. Ah Spring! Naughty Spring! Neither one thing nor other.

HERBERT E. PALMER.

T each o trast " Men 15s.), man, "AI interv entry volum the o antiq ninet by th made splen imn ful pi valua was h frigat the c Willi histo inimi most dread Revo utter

Jun

utter to o betw mar stan men strat Rev tion If H just ing Pot the lam beer eigh 182 in a ing a c had

to b

Brita

Euro

side

" in are mo

and

tho

live

into

Par

the

tair

all

THE WORLD OF BOOKS

FROM HICKEY TO HARDMAN.

Two volumes of autobiography following hard upon each other's heels form an interesting subject for contrast and comparison. They are the third volume of "Memoirs of William Hickey" (Hurst & Blackett, 15s.), and the letters and memoirs of Sir William Hardman, edited by Mr. S. M. Ellis under the title "A Mid-Victorian Pepys" (Cecil Palmer, 25s.). An interval of less than seventy years separates the first entry in Hardman's diary from the last entry in this volume of Mr. Hickey, the one being dated 1859 and the other 1790. Mr. Hickey belonged, therefore, to antiquity and the eighteenth century, Hardman to the nineteenth century and modernity. They were separated by the convulsion which, so our history books tell us, made us what we are. To Mr. Hickey, sitting in his splendid new mansion in Calcutta, surrounded by his "immense looking-glasses" and the "number of beautiful pictures and prints, forming altogether a choice and valuable collection," the news of this tremendous event was brought one May morning of 1790 by His Majesty's frigate the "Vestal," and Mr. Hickey instantly saw the chasm which was to open between him and Sir William Hardman, and agreed by anticipation with the history books. "The 'Vestal," he wrote in his inimitable style, "brought us the first account of that most extraordinary and, as it has fatally turned out, dreadful and ever-to-be-lamented event the French Revolution, the evils of which now seem to portend the utter ruin of the whole Continent of Europe, and, it is to be apprehended, ultimately of the island of Great

SIR WILLIAM HARDMAN, surveying the Continent of Europe and the island of Great Britain from the other side of the chasm, was, apparently, not conscious of the utter ruin. Yet at first sight his memoirs bring home to one what an immense amount had been destroyed between 1790 and 1860. The contrast is the more marked because of the similarity between the circumstances, and perhaps even the characters, of the two men. Each was a lawyer and belonged to that upper stratum of the middle classes which before the French Revolution left too few, and since the French Revolution has left too many, records of its life and opinions. If Hardman had been born in 1750 he would have lived just such a gay and violent life as carried Hickey rollicking through the world from Richmond Bridge to Bob Pott's palace at Moorshedabad, he would have hailed the French Revolution as a dreadful and ever-to-belamented event, and his mind and language would have been tuned to the stately and stilted rhythm of the eighteenth century; if Hickey had been born between 1820 and 1830 he would have "pottered" through life in a civilized way, like Hardman, enjoying and recording its gossip and its scandals and the stray thoughts of a casual mind in casual language; he might well have had the supreme adventure of taking his family, packed into two four-wheelers, to the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park or of taking Meredith on a walking tour through the safe and sober lanes of Surrey; and he would certainly, like Hardman, have been a good Tory, saddling all the sins of the world upon the backs of those "infernal Radicals," and regretting in 1862 that "we are to have no war with these infernal Yankees."

The difference between different times and ages is most clearly reflected in the way in which people talked and wrote, for words are themselves the reflection of thoughts. We are separated from Hardman by as many years as Hardman was from Hickey, yet our speech and lives are much nearer 1860 than were those of 1860 to

1790. When Hardman did not like a man he called him an infernal Radical or an infernal Yankee, just as to-day a man may talk of a "damned Socialist" or a "damned Bolshevik." But when Colonel Wray, as Hickey relates, "with much mildness and moderation gave his sentiments" upon the controversial subject of the "relative situation and clashing interests of the King's and Company's Officers," Mr. Burke, their host, rose "from his chair upon his feet" and, striking his clenched fist upon the table, said: "God damn my blood if I ever heard such low, blackguard, grovelling sentiments coming from the mouth of a person calling himself a gentleman! You, Mr. Major, Colonel, What'syour-name-damn your name! I never wish to know your name nor have anything to do with a fellow capable of making such dirty, illiberal comparisons." And when Mr. Hickey one day after dinner fed his two dogs in the dining-room, Mr. Burt, his guest, "abused me exceedingly, swearing that I must be deficient in breeding or I should never have attempted to feed a parcel of damned dirty curs in the presence of gentlemen; and, by God, he would remain no longer in the house of a man guilty of so unpardonable a rudeness, and he instantly rose from his seat and staggered downstairs." It is true that both Mr. Burke and Mr. Burt were drunk, but that was the normal condition of Mr. Hickey and his friends after dinner in 1790. Hardman, Meredith, and Anthony Trollope after dining together at the Castle Inn, Richmond, were quite sober, and read aloud, amid roars of laughter, the letters of application for the post of hangman, which had just become vacant. And even if they had been drunk they would neither have thought the thoughts nor have spoken the words of Mr. Burt and Mr. Burke.

In the mind of the eighteenth century and of Mr. Hickey there is a correct place and a correct phrase reserved for everything. The more drunk you became the more important this great fact was to you. That was Mr. Burt's perfectly good point as he staggered downstairs: a gentleman does not feed a parcel of damned dirty curs in the presence of gentlemen. But by 1860 Mr. Hickey's standards of correctness had all but vanished; the standards which remained were those not of gentlemen, but of morality. The difference is a profound one, though Sir William Hardman and his friends were probably not themselves conscious of it, since they did not realize that they had lost Mr. Hickey's standards of gentlemanliness, just as Mr. Hickey (as is proved by the incident of Sir Paul Joddrel) did not realize that he had already acquired some of the moral standards of the Victorians. In 1790 a middle-class attorney in Calcutta still had to behave as if he were a gentleman; in 1860 a middle-class barrister and the editor of the "Morning Post" had to behave as if he were a good and a respectable man. The effort required in each case was pretty considerable, but it was nothing to the effort required of the eighteenth-century lady to live up to the standard demanded of her. In the midst of a tremendous hurricane Mr. Hickey told the beautiful Charlotte, who was accompanying him to India as his wife, that the ship would founder in a few minutes. Whereupon "the dear woman, with a composure and serenity that struck me most forcibly, mildly replied, 'God's will be done; to that I bend with humble resignation, blessing a benevolent providence for permitting me, my dearest William, to expire with you, whose fate I am content to share; but oh! my dearest love, let us in the agonies of death be not separated,' and she clasped me in her arms."

LEONARD WOOLF.

Ju

wher

in de

expe

was.

igno

that

mass

uses

grea

spec

in 1

wor

has

still

evid

reli

Mid

cen

the

tific

for

hay

fair

hea

tig

bu

su

bu

ru

Cł

tif

by

an

bu

th

lo

REVIEWS

QUANTULA SAPIENTIA.

The Irish Revolution, and How It Came About. By WILLIAM O'BRIEN. (Allen & Unwin. 16s.)

To prove that in the controversies which have divided Irishmen during the past twenty years he was himself on the side of the angels is, I think it not unfair to say, the most obvious purpose of Mr. William O'Brien's latest apologia. And I, who in my small way found myself more often than not opposed to him, do most freely grant, as have others of more importance, that his claim is not without substance. In seeking to effect a Land Settlement by consent, and in striving to extend this consent to the larger issue of selfgovernment, Mr. O'Brien was clearly right. All that need now be said is that he had no monopoly of virtue, and that, if his purposes were angelic, his methods were often less than humane. If the friends of conciliation grew fewer or were reduced to helpless silence, if the advances of certain Southern Unionists were too often met by a silly rudeness, some of the blame must, in fairness, be attributed to the unfortunate temper in which Mr O'Brien and his chief supporters in the House of Commons chose to conduct their That, at any rate, was at the time my own conviction, which a careful study of this book has not altered.

One could say a good deal on this point if one had reason to suppose that people in this country retained any interest in such controversies. But, as things now are, I am much mistaken if the desire of the average Englishman is not to forget that Ireland ever existed, or, if he cannot forget, at least to go his way thanking God that he is rid of a knave.

For the melancholy outcome of it all, all parties and most individuals are to blame, but those especially, on one side or another, who forgot that hard words, if they break no bones, leave behind them injuries less easily forgotten. Most of those whom Mr. O'Brien attacks are still alive, and can reply to him if they think fit. But of my dead friend and leader I must say this one thing. To suggest that John Redmond—of all Irishmen I have known, the most tolerant and unselfish—allowed himself to be made, however unwillingly, the agent of a conspiracy to destroy the Protestants of Ireland and to barter away the liberties of Ireland in return for secret control of Government patronage, is as absurd as it is painful.

Alone of all the old controversies, that which still rages round the position of "Ulster" is still alive—and only too likely to remain alive for many years. To the reluctant acquiescence of the Irish Party in the partition of Ireland Mr. O'Brien traces—as many others have done—the uprising of Ireland behind Sinn Fein. But that acquiescence was not, as he seems to suggest, a mere superfluity of naughtiness. Much as everyone in Ireland dislikes the partition, I have never been able to see an alternative so long as the North-East could neither be persuaded nor compelled to come in under a National Government.

I am not forgetting that Mr. O'Brien conceives himself to have invented a plan to reconcile the North-East and avoid partition by giving its representatives a suspensory veto on the acts of the National Parliament, but beyond his personal affirmation one does not find in his book any evidence that at any time whatever an agreement could have been reached on these lines. If it were ever possible, it would have been perhaps just when the Easter Rising had shocked England for a moment into treating Irish discontents with a new seriousness, and when, in the stress of the dragging war, Ulster was more amenable than at other times.

Perhaps the most interesting thing in the book is the memorandum, under date May 30th, 1916, of a confidential interview between Mr. Lloyd George, Sir Edward Carson, and Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Lloyd George was desperately anxious for an immediate settlement, or at least a provisional arrangement, his view being that, "come what might, something must be done before the American Elections, or Wilson would be returned and the war lost." Carson, on his side, "was visibly affected, and said with a deep emphasis that Ulster would go very far indeed rather than see the war lost"; and further, "avowed that he had never liked partition." Nevertheless, when Mr. O'Brien suggested that, as an alternative, "Parliament should give to Ireland some

such guarantee of freedom as the Tsar and the Duma had with such striking effect to Poland," both Carson and Lloyd George were afraid the difficulties would be almost insurmountable, and, though Carson "undertook to consult with his friends in Ulster and advise them to consider the whole situation under the new conditions we had been discussing," nothing came of the proposal. How those which were immediately substituted (based on the exclusion of the Six Counties) broke down; how Ireland was kept talking in the Convention while America was brought into the war; how the threat of conscription consolidated the growing power of Sinn Fein; how in July, 1919, Mr. Lloyd George earnt that Sinn Fein was willing to accept Dominion Home Rule, and how he treated the information; how he persisted in pushing through the unwanted Act of 1920-all this we can read here in much detail, as also how, after the failure of the Black-and-Tan régime, he was brought to agree in December, 1921, to the terms proposed to him eighteen months earlier, at a time when the Republican oath—for the sake of which Ireland has had to endure yet another eighteen months of civil war-had not as yet been taken by members of the Dáil

Whether, in all this weary business, Irishmen or their late rulers blundered the more frequently and disastrously would be a nice question to decide. Also, as things now are, it does not matter a dump.

H. A. LAW.

MAGIC AND SCIENCE.

A History of Magic and Experimental Science. By LYNN THORNDIKE, Ph.D. Two vols. (Macmillan. 42s.)

THE author begins by stating that "this book aims to treat the history of magic and experimental science and their relation to Christian thought during the first thirteen centuries of our era." This aim, though ambitious, is excellently achieved.

In the introduction there is a short and necessarily cursory survey of Egyptian, Babylonian, and Greek magic and natural science, sufficient to indicate the state of knowledge at the beginning of our era; after this, every author who wrote on these subjects is carefully investigated, beginning with Pliny in the first century A.D., down to the unfortunate Cecco d'Ascoli, who was burnt at the stake by the Inquisition in 1327. The authors are arranged in chronological sequence; a short life of each and a critical account of his works give a vivid idea of his position in the world of thought and science. In the appropriate chronological order are chapters on the Gnostics, Pagan and Christian thought, Post-Classical Medicine, and so on. The mass of accurate detail which has been collected makes book exceedingly valuable to all workers in this field of research. As a book of reference it is unexcelled, and the method of arranging the material makes it exceedingly easy The only fault is the weak concluding chapter. Treated as a dictionary of the subject, the book is all that can be desired; the attempt at philosophy and psychology at the end, though unfortunate, does not in any way detract from the real value of the book.

Like most students of the subject, Dr. Thorndike has a difficulty in defining magic. To the man in the street magic is some method by which one can reverse the laws of Nature, strike an enemy dead without touching him, and bring fortune or misfortune upon whom one wills. Yet in many of its forms magic is identical with what is now called Religion. When a new and higher religion is evolved or superimposed upon a religion of the lower culture, "the God of the old religion becomes the devil of the new," and the rites of the old religion are considered to be "magical," and are regarded with a certain amount of fear. In other of its forms, magic is a series of experiments in controlling the forces of Nature and in the healing of diseases. The control of Nature can be obtained only by controlling the God of Nature, either by compulsion or by obtaining his favour. The latter method is still among us; "prayer moves the arm that moves the world" is a theory still inculcated amongst people who would be horrified and indignant if they were accused of practising or attempting magic. The experimental nature of the "magic" practised by medieval witches shows that it was the precursor of modern experirson nost sult the dishich

3.

had

the ring ar: ing orge ome sted

the gree teen -for her

heir asly now

by

heir cencel-

YNN

rily agic owhor ginby

unt orld ical ian s of

the of the asy ter. hat

ogy has

aws and in lled or

reet

the and r of

ing The the his

Ves ted if

Γhe val

mental science. The chief witch, or devil, as he was called, when he wished an experiment tried, explained the method in detail to his followers; and after they had carried out the experiment, the result was noted in "the devil's book." It was, of course, unfortunate that the experimenters were ignorant and untrained; but the method closely resembles that of a professor and his assistants in a laboratory, and a mass of knowledge of certain natural phenomena and of the nses of plants was accumulated and was drawn upon by the great minds of each generation. This seems to have been the case with Albertus Magnus, whose "desire for concrete, specific, detailed, accurate knowledge concerning everything in Nature" may perhaps account for the popularity of his works among an unexpected clientèle—a popularity which has survived to the present day, when "le grand Albert" is still a book to be consulted and quoted. On reviewing the

evidence, it seems then that magic is the early form of both religion and experimental science.

The change in the modern attitude of mind towards the Middle Ages is well shown in the chapter on Roger Bacon. A few years ago the ordinary conception of the thirteenth century was of a people and priesthood sunk in the depths of ignorance, with Roger Bacon as a lone voice crying in the wilderness and as daring to carry out and record scientific investigations at the risk of excommunication and death for his heretical views. Though Dr. Thorndike appears to have a definite prejudice against Bacon and damns with faint praise when he cannot find fault, he shows that the heads, as least, of the Church were interested in the investigations, and that Bacon received encouragement from the Pope himself. Bacon, like all great men, though in advance of his age, was but a product of his age. In the thirteenth century in England, schools for boys were being founded by burgesses in various towns, and these schools were governed by the burgesses themselves, and no priest was ever permitted to be a governor. Though religion was taught, these were essentially secular schools. A boy, passing through such a school and desiring to devote his life to study, might become a monk for the sake of having his living assured, but his studies would be on the more liberal side, and the rulers of the Church, knowing his education, would be more lenient to his faults than if he had been educated in a monastery. It was not until the fourteenth century that the Church definitely set her face against all advance in scientific knowledge and attempted to prevent that advance by persecution with fire and sword. Until that time the finest and most ardently scientific minds entered the ministry; but, though knowledge advanced, the Church stood still, until there came a time when the great investigators could no longer submit to the bonds which crippled them. Up to the thirteenth century the Church was wide enough to accept the science of that day and to encourage the great men who investigated the secrets of Nature.

M. A. MURRAY.

AN ANCIENT CONTROVERSY.

The Triumph of Unarmed Forces, 1914-1918. By Rear-Admiral H. W. W. P. Consett, C.M.G., assisted by Captain O. H. Daniel, R N. (Williams & Norgate. 15s.)

No aspect of the late war deserves closer attention than the restriction of enemy supplies, and Admiral Consett, who was Naval Attaché in Scandinavia throughout the war, is in a position to offer first-hand evidence on one very important branch of the problem—the supplies received by Germany from and through the Scandinavian countries. Unfortunately, the value of his book as a contribution to study of the subject is marred by the acrimony of its tone and the lack of balance in its criticisms. Admiral Consett is throughout uncompromisingly dogmatic; he brushes aside almost contemptuously all evidence that runs counter to his own views, and he appears to regard all who differed from him as to the respective importance of conflicting considerations as either traitors or idiots.

Like many other writers, Admiral Consett traces the root of all evil to the Declaration of Paris, and, in common with his school, he ignores the fact that the extreme interpretation of belligerent rights, then renounced, had been widely and constantly contested, had been applied by ourselves largely

on the plea of retaliation and reprisal, and had frequently proved impossible to enforce. In almost every war from that of the League of Augsburg onwards, it had been necessary to make large concessions to the protests of neutrals or allies. We finally abandoned our claims because it was impossible to maintain them without leaguing the world against us.

In his criticism of the Declaration of London, Admiral Consett is on firmer ground; but the main interest of his book lies, naturally, in the question of Scandinavian exports to Germany and goods passing to Germany through Scandinavian ports. Admiral Consett appears to overestimate their importance, both in relation to the total German resources and to the supplies obtained from Roumania and the occupied territories; but there can be no question that they were of sufficient value to demand the closest scrutiny by the Allied Governments. Whether it would have been possible to cut them off at the outset of

the war is another question.

The restrictive system finally built up, with its embargoes on exports to Scandinavia and "rationing" of Scandinavian imports, went beyond all precedent in its control of neutral trade, even in domestic products. To have attempted half as much before the German submarine campaign had had time to affect neutral opinion would, apart from all questions of legality, have involved immense risks. There were many factors to be considered—the risk of American intervention, or at least of an embargo on munitions; the importance of the transit route to Russia, and Russian apprehensions as to the effects of Swedish hostility; the apprehensions as to the effects of Swedish nostility; the great importance of Scandinavian shipping to the Allies, especially in the French coal trade. The Allied munition factories depended on Scandinavia for certain highly specialized products; our imports of pit-props, timber, and dairy-produce could only gradually and partially be replaced. Admiral Consett mentions many of these factors, the district them, but the considered indement of these only to dismiss them; but the considered judgment of those who were actually in touch with these aspects of the problem cannot so lightly be set aside. No doubt some mistakes were made, as they have been in every phase of every war that has been fought; but the problem was not so simple as Admiral Consett makes it. To minimize its complexity is to do grave injustice to those on whom the burden fell, and to run the risk of drawing very misleading lessons for the

THE LEFT LEG.

The Left Leg. By T. F. Powys. (Chatto & Windus. 7s. 6d.)

THE publishers of these three stories confirm the impression made by the sometimes tiresome dialect, that the scene is Wessex; they add, with an accuracy which is usually a stranger to the wrappers of fiction, that "of Thomas Hardy there is no whisper." Indeed, it seems to the reviewer that Mr. Powys's only literary relative is Selma Lagerlöf. Luke, brewer's accountant turned preacher; Gillet, who "got" religion and neglected his farm to pray among the graves; Hester Dominy, obsessed by the drabness of town life as symbolized by the harsh church-bells; Antony Dine, who, late in life, suddenly left his tailor's bench, his wife and home, to wander goalless into the country—these are Lager-löfian characters. But though, in what excites their imagination and in simple directness, the two writers are alike, for the Swedish woman's romantic intensity we have Mr. Powys's ironic humour; for her idealism, his occasional dashes of vague mysticism; for her sturdy belief that nobility, or at least courage, lurks in the unlikeliest places, his unflinching statement of sordidness almost totally unrelieved, in the hearts, though not in the surroundings, of his peasants.

Nobody who has, and wishes to preserve, delusions about Nobody who has, and wishes to preserve, delusions about the sweet, sound-at-heart if rough, simplicity of village life should read the first and last of these stories, in which lust and greed play a large part; and even those who find lecherous and grasping Farmer Mew and Mr. Pring, spiteful Mrs. Patch and Mad Tom Button, not shocking, but merely horribly convincing, may wish that Mr. Powys would moderate his relish for unpleasant detail. To know that Nellie (almost always referred to with the annoying prefix "Naughty") "began to scratch her legs, pulling up her

It.

ы

fr

an

fo

re

he

in

in

th

el

di

pi

pr se

ba

ta

to

to Co lin

fu A

or al

co

G

he m

a: O

B

te

w

fo h b ta

n

n

fo

y L the first sink

clothes in order to see exactly where the spots were," does not add to our knowledge of her, because we already know that she encourages the obscene attentions of Mad Button. On a par with this is a tendency to buttonhole the reader; the completely suggestive remark "The longer he stayed away the more accurately he was remembered" is spoiled by the parenthesis "which sometimes happens to honest folk."

This is to say that the artistry of the stories falls far below their general effect, which is one of originality, absolute sincerity, and singular clear-sightedness. The book is astoundingly uneven, particularly "Hester Dominy," parts of which are almost unbearably dull; and yet the scene between Hester and Dine the tailor, who has loved her mutely since her childhood, rises to a height unapproached in the other stories, except in "Abraham Men," where Pring attempts a rape on Rose. In these two passages, extraordinarily different in treatment as they are—the one mainly unemotional dialogue, the other related in an allusive, symbolic manner—the writer finds language which gives his conception wings, and up it goes, sweeping the reader with it, boredom and exasperation utterly forgotten. One feels and sees with the actors in those scenes, so that they are stamped upon the mind: they have the inward rhythm and shape of life transmuted by the imagination of an artist.

But, again, Luke the "Abraham man," though he starts real enough, ends as a mystery. Why should he, not apparently a half-wit, think that the policeman, who comes to warn him that complaints have been made about his improper behaviour with Rose on the hill, was referring to the Squire's sheep, which were feeding near, having been frightened? There is some failure of current here; Mr. Powys relates that this was the state of Luke's mind, but the reader's intelligence shies. "Abraham Men," rich in vivid minor characters (such as Squire Kennard, who "connected every person he saw with some animal or other," and who put his wife "into his mind's cage as a porcupine, but said nothing"), is the least good, because, while the ostensible theme is Luke's absolute failure to rouse the villagers to a sense of sin, the chief interest really centres in Rose, her stepfather, and her supposed inheritance. Leg," the enthralling story of Farmer Mew's villainies and the mysterious Mr. Jar's return to Madder, is much the best knit; "Hester Dominy," though too long by a third, and clogged by interminable, dull, repetitive rustic conversations, the most moving. There is something exceedingly fine in the conception of Antony Dine coming unaware to the same place as Hester, and there forgetting his love for her in the placid life of a shepherd's hut. There is no compromise, here or anywhere in the book, with popularity or pleasant prettiness or the human craving for the palliation of human unhappiness. Hester, cheated of the content she hoped to find in the country, goes back to the town and its bells to find that Antony, her only friend, is dead.

E. B. C. Jones.

ON "TURNPENTINE," ETC.

How to Make the Best of Life. By Arnold Bennett. (Hodder & Stoughton. 7s. 6d.)

"The trouble about discussing how to make the best of life," confesses Mr. Bennett, after discussing it for a hundred pages, "is that one is forced to make so many excursions into the obvious." This charming sentence endears him instantly to his reader, and the affection persists, although by the end of the book the reader has been taken on a very lengthy excursion indeed.

It is interesting to contrast Mr. Bennett with the philosopher Greville, of whose anonymously published "Maxims and Reflections" Lowndes says in his kind way: "The book

is entitled to much more praise than it has received."

Greville's "Maxims" was published nearly two hundred years ago. Although the book contains many of the most "striking and important" thoughts which we find in Mr. Bennett's book, they are never focused, applied, or harnessed to serve a useful purpose. But let us put a few of Mr. Bennett's truths side by side with Greville's:—

GREVILLE: "The most selfish thing I know is generosity; but what a selfishness!"

BENNETT: "... all unselfishness is really selfishness at bottom."

Greville: "They that seldom take pleasure, seldom give pleasure."

Bennett: "In addition to pleasing it is necessary to be pleased."

GREVILLE: "Lovers will find that disagreements, if they are too frequent, will at length lose their elasticity, and impel to love no more."

Bennett: "Love will stand all manner of blows, yet every blow weakens."

The coincidence of such "striking and important"

The coincidence of such "striking and important" thoughts is extraordinary. Where originality is shown in one book or the other, it is usually in Greville; but originality is so often obscure: "What an amazing quality has turnpentine! Stir and agitate its particles, and you give it prodigious force; leave it to itself, it has none at all. Emblem of the faculties of man!" There is nothing of this kind in Mr. Bennett, not even the curious remark that: "Only gasbags can float in the air, and even they for not more than a limited period."

However, the comparison of the eighteenth century with the twentieth is wholly to the advantage of our own age. To-day, nobody would handle the great trite truths unless he had a purpose in view, and Mr. Bennett has a very definite and a very wise purpose.

It is to guide, to instruct, and to rig out with a working philosophy the least educated section of the middle classes. As the popularity of many similar books by him has shown, Mr. Bennett is admirably qualified for this purpose. His style is more dignified and impressive than the style in which Dr. Frank Crane delivers his Tonic talks, and the fact that he is one of the best living English novelists appeals to those people who subscribe to circulating libraries. We should all be proud of Mr. Bennett, and grateful to him, for, as Greville says, "being commonplace is perhaps generally less a proof of a thing being too obvious and trivial, as of its being striking and important; for how striking must that observation be which everybody makes!"

DAVID GARNETT.

THE ENGLISH COLONY.

Roman Pictures. By PERCY LUBBOCK. (Cape. 7s. 6d.)

ITALY is not much in fashion with the young nowadays. Our elders have left so viscous a trail of sentiment over all its pleasant places. Snobbishly or sincerely, we prefer Seville to Siena, and El Greco to Botticelli. (A year or so, and we too shall be out of date, for our youngers and betters will be pursuing their ideals in Belgrade or Bucharest.) For the moment Venice has shrunk to a site for suburban honeymoons, and the name of Florence only suggests the desperate culture of the pension table d'hôte. If we go to Italy at all, it is for the bathing The Italianate Englishman has long since ceased to be an incarnation of the Devil; he is now developing from an arbiter of taste into a figure of fun. Byron and Shelley seem actors in a heroic tragedy, W. W. Story and the Brownings move to the tender strains of an antiquated ballet; but Comedy claims for her own the present generation of self-exiled and ageing English, whose only employment is to elaborate their poses, garnish their apartments, and backbite their fellow-colonists. Norman Douglas has drawn the more interesting and intelligent types of them in "South Wind," Mr. Lawrence did a few swift portraits in "Aaron's Rod," and now we have Mr. Percy Lubbock's "Roman Pictures," all of them studies of different members of the same oddly assorted crew.

The frontispiece, a photograph of the lovely youths on the Fountain of the Tortoises, suggests that the book is yet another attempt at that portraiture of places in which Henry James and Vernon Lee excel. But Mr. Lubbock takes our knowledge of the background all blessedly for granted. Does he not write for the cultured? And leaving his readers' memory to supply the travertine façades and stucco adornments of the Roman scene, he puts up in a row the typical figures of "the English Colony," and calls upon us to watch the unfailing aim and neat execution of his cockshies. Down they topple, one after another, the refined and the vulgar, "the affected and the disaffected," men and women and even children: Mr. Deering, half poseur, half schoolmarm, and altogether prig; Father Holt, the too

3.

ldom

to be

they

and

yet

ant"

rigi-

has

ve it

all.

hat:

not

with age. nless

inite

king

sses.

His

e in

the peals

We for, rally

that

d.) lays.

r all refer

r so.

tters

est.)

rban the

o to

lish-

evil; gure

gedy, rains n the phose

their Mr.

telli-

did

idies
is on
s yet

our

nted.

his

f his

and

too

gentlemanly Jesuit; the Ninetyish seminarist; the lady who talks about St. Francis; the lady who writes about Italy; the veteran romantic painter; the frequenter of the Vatican backstairs; the smart American Principessa; the bluff gorgon from the English County; the Philistine family from Torquay; those who find England too cold for them, and those who are said to find it too hot—all kiss the dust, for Mr. Lubbock hits them all in a vital place. They all suffer from snobbery. Indeed, only the most candidly disreputable of the Colonists seem quite immune from this distressing and almost universal complaint. Mr. Lubbock has the keenest imaginable eye for it, and Mr. Shaw's doctors are not more unvarying in their diagnoses. But why it should in its severest form so particularly afflict the Englishman in Italy, Mr. Lubbock omits to tell us. One suspects that the restricted size of the Colony has something to do with it. Residents in foreign towns have either to meet those with whom in England they would not normally associate, or else to thwart the gregarious instincts natural to the rather dilettante class to which most of them belong.

With snobs as his quarry, Mr. Lubbock is a very champion of cacciatori, and language becomes in his hands the precisest, the deadliest of weapons. But have we not all seen on soft Italian evenings sportsmen and their curious dogs returning proudly home through the olive-trees with a bagful of birds no bigger than a thrush? Sometimes, certainly, one seems to detect in Mr. Lubbock's painting a touch of well-bred gusto which suggests that he is paying off old scores. Anyone can sympathize with him who has had to endure the mincing pretentiousness of some of the Colonists. And yet, is it quite worth while? Isn't it a little monotonous? Isn't it even a little infra dig.? Do Mr. Lubbock's aims necessitate quite so splendid and carefully disciplined an array of words? Aren't we all snobs? And—but one hardly dares to breathe such a question—if one of Mr. Lubbock's victims wrote a book, isn't this almost the sort of book one rather imagines he or she might conceivably produce? Though not, of course, with such skill. For it is the very accomplishment of "Roman Pictures" which may disgruntle those of Mr. Lubbock's admirers who were hoping for another critical work to put beside his admirable "Craft of Fiction."

DEAD DIPLOMACY.

Great Britain and Prussia in the Eighteenth Century. By Sir RICHARD LODGE. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 14s.)

To be the ally of France, said the great Frederick, is to be her slave. To be the ally of England, he found, was to be her mercenary, and this he almost as bitterly resented. Indeed, this inferiority complex gave to diplomats as much trouble as did his ostentatious disregard of moral scruples. Offended pride—it could not have been offended morals explains the grotesque extravagance of his indignation when Bute, in his clumsy British way, also tried to make profit from Machiavelli. Frederick was sufficiently ingenuous to meditate an appeal to the people of England. His representatives at the Court of St. James's were instructed to imitate, with what success is not recorded, the boor, and to overthrow the Ministry. The Ministry survived, and Frederick sulked for a quarter of a century. Another thing which appears to have unnecessarily annoyed him was the distinction made by the Georges and their Ministers with occasional advan-tage between the King of Great Britain and Ireland and the Elector of Hanover. It was less finely metaphysical than many another distinction familiar to a Prince of that finely metaphysical entity, the Holy Roman Empire, but Frederick found in it yet another insult to his personal dignity. The young men, mostly Scots, who successively tenanted our Legation at Berlin had no easy time with one who, himself the worst mannered and least honest of rulers, demanded from his fellows the highest courtesy and the most chivalrous That his success was deserved by his ability even, Sir Richard Lodge denies. But one thing remains as conspicuous as his success—the consistency of his policy. A simple and unexalted policy: to be important; to be, as he himself put it, talked about; but in the desert of eighteenthcentury diplomatic history how refreshing it is to come upon a deliberated policy at all!

The private citizen is tempted to rebel against the evidence, and to affirm that no country could have allowed its foreign affairs to be conducted with the frivolity and stupidity stamped on the policy of all European States at this time. That the rulers in Renaissance Italy should have gambled with cities and provinces like children with counters is excusable. The world was in blossom then, and the game very bright and daring; and the players did, too, adventure their own bodies. But the men of the eighteenth century, in other respects so conspicuously adult . . . Perhaps behind this reshuffling and redealing were rules of a kind. Perhaps some solid interest, some intelligible idea, dictated peace and war. Here and there in the State papers is a hint of one, besides that colonial rivalry of France and Britain to which it is so tempting to assign a too prominent place in the discussion of motives. But the hint is immediately obscured, and all lies again in dull confusion around this King's pride and that Minister's ignorance.

diately obscured, and all lies again in dull contusion around this King's pride and that Minister's ignorance.

The Ford Lectures given last year by Sir Richard Lodge throw little light on this wider question. For this their subject must be blamed. The only link between Britain and Prussia was financial. Enthusiastic publicans in this country might put on their signboards a picture of Frederick and call the inn "The Protestant Hero," or Hanoverians might cherish a local animosity, but the English statesmen regarded the single fact that the Prussian Army would be worth subsidizing, and the Prussian disliked or exploited the chances of a bargain which might reduce his country in the eyes of the world to the status of a menleasing duchy. The dismal chronicle is occasionally relieved by the queer character of our agents—of, for example, the young diplomatist who, after with great difficulty arranging a treaty, neglected to have any signature but his own attached, or of the unhappy foreigner who undertook the conduct of our affairs in Berlin and in Dresden with a salary of forty shillings a week and a quite inadequate knowledge of English. For the rest, Sir Richard's scheme necessitates the rehearsal of many familiar facts and excludes discussion of their meaning. His task has been not to add a chapter, but to extend a footnote to history. The chief result of his researches is to be seen in his admirably clear and impartial analysis of the quarrel between Frederick and Bute, which was followed by our abandonment of our ally in the Treaty of Paris. Making a secret appeal to a common enemy to apply pressure upon a friend would be a dangerous device, even if employed by men more skilful than Bute and his servants. In their hands it was disastrous, and only the traditional rudeness of Prussian diplomacy furnishes the British apologist with some excuse for our crowning infidelity.

THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE REFORMATION. An Essay on the Economic Effects of the Reformation By George O'Brien. (Burns & Oates. 7s. 6d.)

Before the judgment of effects comes that of the thing affected. Here are some of Dr. O'Brien's judgments of the world before the Reformation: "Its religious orders set the example of arduous and unremitting toil to the laity"; "the coherent and elastic system of ethics [of usury] which Europe had enjoyed under the medieval Church"; "The Middle Ages did, in fact, witness the building up of a beautiful and harmonious civilization"; "If the great charitable institutions of the Middle Ages had been suffered to pursue their course, it is . . . certain that a great part of the terrible social problems of the industrial era would have been either modified or avoided." To which a critic might retort: "For arduous monastic toil see Miss Eileen Power's recent book on English nunneries; for the working of the system of ethics, the puzzled legislation of Henry VII.'s Parliament; for harmonious economic civilization, the annals of the Jacquerie, of the Florentine Ciompi, or even of Wat Tyler; and for the course of the great charitable institutions, the story of French and Spanish institutional religion in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries."

Against an imagined bright and harmonious Middle Age it is easy to sketch in a black Reformation, since, on any showing, the Reformation, as the economist views it, was at least grey. "Our inquiries," Dr. O'Brien says, "will be directed exclusively to the effects of the Reformation on economic thought and theory." The promise is not kept in

Jun

so many words, but the essay is mainly concerned with opinion. On this side it is marred a little by its great, but mainly second-hand, learnedness. Luther, Calvin, Baxter, Adam Smith, the Methodists, all come to us by way of Troeltsch, or Max Weber, or Leslie Stephen, or Dr. Cunning-ham; and Luther's theology mainly by way of the "Catholic Encyclopædia." The conduits are mostly good, but in flowing through them the water of Reformation thought loses some of its freshness.

The centre of the essay rests on Max Weber's doctrine that essential capitalism, its core, its Geist, is Puritan. Puritanism had its "intramundane asceticism," its glorification of devotion to one's "calling" (often a gainful business), its Old Testament gauging of God's favour and a chosen man's righteousness by the abundance of that man's possessions, all leading to the preaching of work and gain for work and gain's sake. Weber's doctrine suits Dr. for work and gain's sake. Weber's doctrine suits Dr. O'Brien's point of view. The sole authentic capitalism is this Puritan capitalism of the spirit; and so most denunciations of capitalism can be debited to the Reformation. "There were many quite extensive manufactures carried on in the Italian cities in the sixteenth century, but no one would suggest that the industrial society of that time bore a capitalist stamp." I know some men who would, and who would suggest it of fifteenth- and fourteenth-century Florence, and would extend their suggestion to thirteenth-century Venice and that good Weber's doctrine is son of the Church, blind Dandolo. reasonably true of what it includes. One need only recall some Rockefeller stories. Its defect is in exclusion.

The capitalist spirit "had a Calvinistic foundation.

Capitalism is therefore one of the economic products of the Reformation." So also, Dr. O'Brien argues, is Socialism because Socialism was a reaction against unregulated individualism, which was a child of the Reformation; because if you question the authority of the Church you fall to doubting the rights of property; because the doctrine of compulsory communism, which the Church has condemned as heretical, is the result of the exercise of the right of private judgment; because Melancthon had to water down the Catholic defence of property to justify confiscation of monastic lands; and because Zwingli so eased the doctrine of original sin that he prepared the way for the heretical doctrine of human perfectibility on earth which lies at the back of all Socialisms.

Capitalism and Socialism being alike condemned, Dr. O'Brien calls us back to the "one institution, and one institution alone, which is capable of supplying and enforcing the social ethic that is needed to revivify the world"—the Institution which the Reformation put for ever on the defensive.

J. H. C.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

Trade Unionism and Munitions. By G. D. H. Cole. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 10s. 6d.)

Workshop Organization. By G. D. H. Cole. (Oxford: Workshop Organization. B. Clarendon Press. 7s. 6d.)

Clarendon Press. 7s. vd.)

THESE are two more volumes in the "Economic and Social History of the World War" series, which is being produced by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. In the first, Mr. Cole records the history of organized labour in the munition industries during the war. Writing labour in the munition industries during the war. Writing so near in time to the events, he has deliberately chosen the rôle of chronicler rather than historian—and wisely, even though the result must be to confine the reading of his book to students of special problems and to the historian of to students of special problems and to the historian of the future, to both of whom it will be invaluable as a record of facts and a compilation of documents. The middle chapters, which deal with the problems of dilution and substitution, are one long record of squabble and bickersubstitution, are one long record of squabble and bickering, misunderstanding and evasions, by Governments, employers, and trade unions. It is not pleasant reading, but it is instructive, even though the record cannot be said to point the way to better solutions of an emergency which, it is to be hoped, will never arise again. In any case, though here and there Mr. Cole's personal views emerge somewhat strongly, the reader is left to make his own deductions, and it is certain that the book generally will be viewed in a very different light by different people. In his companion volume on Workshop Organization Mr. Cole brings out clearly the reasons why the shop

stewards came into such prominence, especially in the engineering industry, during the war, and vhy the movement was in the main of a temporary nature only. He effectively disposes of the all too popular idea of a shop steward as the personification of "a very high degree of wickedness and perversity." He shows how, in many ways, the movement eased the problems of dilution, and fulfilled most important functions in the war-time organization of the industry. Indeed, one is inclined to wonder whether, in correcting popular misunderstandings, he has not minimized unduly the militant side. The lack of historical material must have been a serious difficulty, but that is all the more reason why some account should be written while memory remains fresh, and we may congratulate Mr. Cole on the results of a laborious task as embodied in this and the the results of a laborious task as embodied in this and the previous volume. *

The Worshipful Company of Grocers: an Historical Retro-spect, 1345-1923. By J. Aubrey Rees. (Chapman & Dodd. 12s. 6d.)

MR. AUBREY REES is a Fellow of the Institute of Certificated Grocers, and this is the third book he has written on the trade. His main purpose is to interest people, to show that the supercilious contempt with which grocers are treated that the supercilious contempt with which grocers are treated in ordinary talk comes from want of thought, and he easily proves that grocery is by no means the least romantic branch of commerce. His first chapter gives accounts of quaint and queer customs which were not without dignity. Mr. Rees makes no attempt to deal with social and economic questions except quite incidentally. Most of the great traders, and not least the grocers, had a pride in their business and a sense of duty to the Commonweal and those whom they employed somewhat akin to the pride of the landowners. The City companies did, undoubtedly, strive as much for the dignity and honesty of their trade as for its material success. The great merchants, as much as the landowners, felt themselves natural rulers, and believed in charity. The grocers, however, upheld class distinctions, and did not permit their apprentices or servants to imitate the clothes and manners of their masters; but the complaints of the apprentices were never refused a hearing, even if the judgments upon them were not without bias. The big traders and merchants of England have always believed in education, and in that way were more advanced than the landowners. and in that way were more advanced than the landowners. The Grocers' Company founded several schools, of which the most renowned are Rugby and Oundle, and have taken a fair share in the endowment of technical instruction.

The Dominant Sex. By Mathilde and Mathias Vaerting.
Translated by Eden and Cedar Paul. (Allen & Unwin. 10s. 6d.)

The translators are right when they say that in this book "we have a work as readable as any novel"; it is fascinating. The authors want to show, by reference to ancient sociology and more recent anthropological discoveries, that the differences between men and women are coveries, that the differences between men and women are not as fundamental in many respects as is generally supposed. They claim to prove that the position, behaviour, and attitude of women are merely due to the existence of a monosexual state where the male is dominant. When the female was dominant, the male took the same position as the female under masculine dominance, and consequently displayed "feminine" characteristics. We are now heading for equality, and the authors seem to think that women will shed their peculiarities with the change. The great mistake they make is in the notion of "inborn" characteristics. They do not realize that however modified women have been They do not realize that however modified women have been by male dominance, the modifications are just as "inborn" in individual women, and it is rash to foretell the direction in which such modifications will themselves be modified.

The Enemies of Liberty. By E. S. P. HAYNES. (Grant Richards. 68.)

Mr. Haynes has long been known as a lesser disciple of the creed of Mr. Chesterton and Mr. Belloc. Its Credo is the creed of Mr. Chesterton and Mr. Belloc. Its Credo is once more set out in vigorous language in this book. Here you will read of the terrible doings and sayings of all the people whom Mr. Haynes happens not to like—the Puritans and Prohibitionists, the prudes, and, above all, the Collectivists. It is interesting to find that Mr. W. H. Mallock's death, though consigned to a footnote, is, in Mr. Haynes's opinion, "a fresh blow to the cause of clear thinking and public enlightenment," and a catastrophe comparable to disasters "which have destroyed every Empire but the British Empire."

The Mercantile Marine. By E. Keble Chatterton. (Heinemann. 18s. 6d.)

Mr. Chatterton gives in popular style a good deal of information about ships and seamen of the past and present; but his book cannot be accepted as a serious history of the Pf s,df r,i-LI

n w y h d

s

e s. td - sd

f s e e s

OPE & BRADLEY

OLD BOND ST LONDON-W ent to H.M. The King of Spain



Kadame est servie

"DINNER IS SERVED"

By H. DENNIS BRADLEY.

By H. DENNIS BRADLEY.

There are ten thousand ways of dining. It is a far more important function to those with delicate taste than to those with lusty appetites, for, however choice the food may be, it is the mental recreation that counts, and not the stomach gymnastics.

Numerically, the company varies from the ideal little dinner party to the appalling public banquet.

The ideal little dinner party, of course, consists of two—of opposing sexes—just delightfully intimate enough with each other not to have discovered breakfast frailties.

Then there is the party of three. Two is company, but sometimes three is fun, if one is a lady. Freed from the disturbance of competition she will shine at her wittlest and revel in her catholicity.

Four is either a conflict or a ménage a quatre, and six is a crowd. From the intimate we arrive at the larger social parties, which only the hermit can evade. Some of these are tolerable, but most are soul-crushing. One's dinner companion is a gamble, with the odds in favour of mental frost-bite, in which case one finesses with futile inanities, toys with popular platitudes, discusses meteorology, and eventually chants one's obsequies to one's hostess and dismally departs.

Last of all, there are public banquets; either ramlike Victorian resuscitations or modern mixed meanderings—both perfectly dreadful. If the banquet is a ramlike concourse of males, the entertainment takes the form of after-dinner speeches by rotund gentlemen bursting with food and bibulous loquacity, who interlard their aggressive patriotism with a decoration of suggestive stories of unimaginative indecency. And what a spectacle these masses of black-coated humanity present. The only relief in colour is the occasional glint of a blood-shot eye, or the florid flush on the cheek of a dysepptic.

So far as dress is concerned, the great majority of men appear to be entirely uneducated. At a recent masculine banquet, composing an assembly of over three hundred, although ninety-nine per cent. had any pretensions to

4 OLD BOND STREET W BOVAL EXCHANGE MANCHESTER



THREE NUNS CIGARETTES

of Pure Virginia Tobacco 10 for 6^{D.}

Always good company

A good book and a quiet smokewhat more could any man want? To "know" Three Nuns is to enjoy a sweet, satisfying smoke, full of fragrant freshness-a tobacco that will burn slowly and evenly to the bottom of the bowl.

There is no dust in

Sold everywhere in the following packings:-

2 oz. Tins - 2/4 1 oz. Packets 1/2 2 oz. Packets - 2/4 4 oz. Tins - - 4/8

Stephen Mitchell and Son, Branch of the Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain & Ireland), Limited, 38, St. Andrew Square, Glasgow.

The earlier chapters, describing the Mercantile Marine. The earlier chapters, describing the growth of ocean commerce, are scrappy and not always accurate. Mr. Chatterton clings, for instance, to the exploded theory that the Navigation Acts dealt a death-blow to Dutch prosperity, and in his account of the first beginnings of British shipping he ignores the vital importance of the Bordeaux trade. He is happier in dealing with the East India Company's service, the clippers, and the modern liner. The illustrations are good, including some reproductions of rare prints. Mercantile Marine.

The Story of Christ. By GIOVANNI PAPINI. Translated by MARY PRICHARD AGNETTI. (Hodder & Stoughton. 10s. 6d.)
In "The Brook Kerith" an elaborate and partly suc-

MARY PRICHARD AGNETTI. (Hodder & Stoughton. 10s. 6d.)

IN "The Brook Kerith" an elaborate and partly successful attempt was made to convey to the modern reader the atmosphere of Palestine two thousand years ago. In the pages "From an Unknown Disciple," contributed to The Nation some years ago, the Gospel story was retold in a way which helped many readers to realize its truth and beauty more vividly than before. The writers of both these books, therefore, earned our gratitude. Can the same be said of Papini, the Italian hot-gospeller, whose "Story of Christ" has proved a "best-seller" in Italy, and has now been translated into English? It is hard to believe that many people in this country will find his book of value. The Bible is not so widely read in Italy as it is in England, and this may partly account for the enthusiasm with which this book has been received there. Still more may it be due to interest in the writer's personality. Papini has been before his countrymen for more than twenty years as a violent dialectician, for and against each system of philosophy in turn. According to his translator, "he has ever swung backwards and forwards between the loftiest flights of lyric eloquence and the most violent outbursts of vituperation and —not infrequently—of coarseness." His conversion from agnosticism to Roman Catholic Christianity may have been an interesting episode to those who knew him, but he does not seem to have been qualified thereby to retell the story of Christ. Possibly, he is untranslatable.

The Secret Agent: a Drama in Three Acts. By Joseph Conrad. (Privately printed for subscribers only by T. Werner Laurie. £3 3s.)

This is the text of Mr. Conrad's play, based upon his novel, which was staged last November. It is admirably printed, but the stiff, hand-made paper makes it a difficult book to read with comfort.

THE DRAMA

TWO NEW PLANETS.

"Stop Flirting" at the Shaftesbury Theatre.

What a relief it is for the critic, jaded by too frequent genuflexion at the shrine of our highbrow drama, to witness the performance of even quite an ordinary musical comedy! But how much greater is his deserved reward, how far deeper is his gratitude, when he tumbles on such an entertainment as "Stop Flirting"! I, at any rate, passed a more agreeable evening than I have known in an English theatre since Basil Hallam and Elsie Janis held London in the gossamer chain of the old 1914 "Passing Show." Speaking admittedly from limited "Passing Show." Speaking admittedly from limited experience, I should say that "Stop Flirting" is far and away the happiest diversion at present beckening to Londoners. What a pleasure it is for once to see people content with the classical ideal of knowing what they want to do and then proceeding to do it, instead of pursuing the merely Gothic dream of the instructive or

Everything about "Stop Flirting" is up to sample. All the actors work hard and with evident enjoyment. There are several new jokes, and even the older ones are either not yet hoary with antiquity or else decked up in the latest fashions for the occasion. Sentimentality of all kinds is reduced to the inevitable minimum, while sound rehearsal and good business are the order of the day

Still, it would be idle to pretend that the extreme delightfulness of the evening was not due to the emergence of two American stars of the very first order of magnitude in the persons of Fred and Adele Astaire, and contemptible to say less than that their genius for vaudeville is consummate. Their relation both to each other and to the audience was perfect in feeling, while they made the slightest gesture and uttered the least important word with every inch of their bodies, never being content with the employment of the essential extremities—tongue, hand, or foot. In their tireless high spirits, their unfailing delight in their own concerns, their litheness and unceasing activities, they almost ceased to be human beings to become, as it were, translated into denizens of an Elizabethan forest:

> "Shaddowes, seeming idle shapes Of little frisking elves and apes, To earth do make their wanton skapes As hopes of pastime haste them.

"And in their courses make that round. In meadows and in marshes found, Of them so called the Fayrie ground Of which they have the keeping.

Both of them got better and better as the evening advanced, and their last duo, "The Whichness of Whatness," soared into an apotheosis which must be seen to be believed, but which swept off its feet an andience consisting for the greater part of persons who were, in the pleasing idiom of the heroine, "neither old enough to be interesting nor young enough to be 'cute.'" But even the most middle-aged among us could not be otherwise than bewitched by such high-spirited, pseudochildish, self-conscious sprites.

It is difficult, when confronted for the first time by virtuosos of the calibre of the Astaires, by artists so supremely endowed with the vaudeville temperament, to do justice to the other performers. It is a high com-pliment to them to say they never let the Astaires down, on whose part there was certainly no tendency to push their colleagues out; in fact, they did their uttermost to fit into the picture. But it remains an inevitable though unfortunate fact that when such artists step on to the stage everybody else tends to go as flat as a Robot. Mr. Jack Melford, however, was more than merely adequate as a host whose house-party has got out of control; and Mr. de Warfaz gave a very meaty sketch of a burlesque Italian count.

In conclusion, I can only say once more that the whole entertainment passed with a rare snap and swing, and kept the audience in fits of laughter from the first moment to the last. In fact, "Stop Flirting" bears on it all the marks of starting on a triumphant career—it will be a scandal to London if it does not run at least five times as long as the "Beggar's Opera." It is up to everyone to show their appreciation of being honoured with a visit from the Activity has a scandal to London in the second control of the se with a visit from the Astaires by compelling them to delay their return to America till the last possible moment. "I guessed I'd just come right back," remarks Mr. Fred Astaire at the critical moment of "Stop Flirting." I hope he may realize from the applause of the audience that London wants him to stay where he is, every bit as much as Mr. Jack Melford wanted to see him safely packed off for the States.

FRANCIS BIRRELL.

THE PUBLISHERS' TABLE

THE second volume of the new edition of "Chambers's Encyclopædia" (Beaucaire-Cataract, 20s:) bears ample evidence of the care with which it has been revised, so as to bring it into line with present-day knowledge. Thus separate articles now appear for the first time on Bergson, Biblical Criticism, Boys' Brigades, and Boy Scouts. The influence of the war is shown in the articles on Bomb and Cannon by Col. Sir H. W. Barlow, the former having grown from half a column to over seven columns, and the latter from eight to sixteen columns. The peaceful progress of science has not, however, been neglected, Cancer having six columns devoted to it by Dr E. F. Bashford, against three July

Jur

Prog

TRAVEL, &c.

SNOWDON

HIGHLANDS WELSH

HIGHLAND STORY

y

d

0

y

0 0

t,

d

e

d

Snowdon & Weish Highland Holiday Book, 123 pages, 42 lilustrations beautifully printed, 1s. 3d., post free, from Manager, Snowden Rallway, Llanberis.

UNIQUE HOLIDAY TOUR £8 8s.

SEVEN DAYS' HOTEL, with Excursions to summit of Snowdon, Beddgelert, Bettwyscoed, Llandudno and Cardigan Bay. Illustrated programms from Manager, Snowdon Railway, Llanberis.

VICTORIA HOTEL Llanberis

Ist class. Circled by mountains, overlooking two lovely lakes. Tennis, Fishing, Electrio Light, Carages. Finest centre for Snow-denia. Brochure from Manager.

PRIVATE SOCIAL TOURS.

First Class Only. 28 days.

July 31. THE GLORIOUS DOLOMITES, by Motor. INDIA, BURMA & CEYLON

With N. S. BISHOP, F.R.G.S. Nov. 2. 4 months.

Frogrammes from N. S. BISHOP, F.R.G.S., 159, Auckland Road,
London, S.E. 19.

SIR HENRY LUNN, LTD.

Established 1892.
ROME, FLORENCE AND VENICE TOURS £27.
PALESTINE, EGYPT AND LUXOR TOURS.
SWISS, BELGIAN AND FRENCH TOURS. Booklets, 5B, Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W. 1.

LEPLAY HOUSE.
SUMMER HOLIDAY VISIT TO NORWAY. August 1923

This visit will combine an attractive holiday in Norway with a first-hand study of the land and people. Of special interest to students of geography, history, and social science. Visits to the cities, fjords, and glacier region.

Full particulars from Miss Margaret Tatton, Leplay House, 65, Belgrave Rd., Westminster, S.W.1

GERMANY MAY BE VISITED
In connection with the Holiday Fellowship.
The BLACK FOREST, Fourteen days, £11. Extensions
to Freiburg and Lake Constance.
DRESDEN and the ELBE, Fourteen days, £11 5s.
Extension to Prague.
To promote International Goodwill.
For barticulars send stamped envelope to For particulars send stamped envelope to The Holiday Fellowship (Room 1), 10-11, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

For a Delightful Holiday visit the London Vegetarian Society's SUMMER HOLIDAY CENTRE at BEXHILL-ON-SEA

from July 28th to September 8th.

Prospectus and full particulars on application to the Secretary, London Vegetarian Society, 8, John Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

THE HUMAN HAIR

Why it Falls Off or Turns Grey and the Re-By PROF, HARLEY PARKER.

Author of "Scalp Massace," "Uric Acid and the Hair," "Alopecia Areata," "The Hair and the Nervous System," etc.

Aream. The Hair and the Nervous System, etc.

"Everybody should read this book,"—Scotsman.

"The new facts related by the Professor have come upon
us as a revelation."—The Guardian.

"The precepts he lays down for the preservation and
restoration of the hair are simple, lucid and convincing."—
Medical Resord.

Price 7d. post free from

J. HARLEY PARKER, Ltd. (Desk 40), 117 St. Georges Rd., Belgravia, London, S.W.1. L.,___.

Statistics

"SUPER— STATISTICS."

> IN recording the great International Social and Missionary Work of the Salvation Army, there is need not only for Statistics but for "Super-Statistics." Here are Statistics:

THE Army operates in 76 countries and colonies, and preaches in 48 languages.

It maintains 1,288 Social Institu-tions where, in one year, 8,099,082 beds and 14,131,549 meals were

beds and 14,131,349 meals were supplied to hungry outcasts.
It spends over £125,000 a year as an International Missionary Society, and maintains large Mission Hospitals in Eastern and Western lands.

BUT there are also "Super-Statistics in the results which this great mass of inspired endeavour achieving everywhere, day by day, hour by hour. Here is just one example:

THROUGH the sympathetic visitation of our officer at the Criminal Lunatic Settlement at Broadmoor, many have been led to a brighter spiritual experience, and some, upon the Army's guarantee, have been released and placed under the care of our officers. Could any figures—any "Statistics" Could any figures—any "Statistics"—express more finely the power of the Army's spirit of love for the lowliest and most unhappy? Only by "Super-Statistics" can any idea of its magnitude be conveyed.

WE ask you to take a share in this wonderful crusade by sending a gift for the International work of

The SALVATION

Send to GENERAL BOOTH, The Salvation Army, Headquarters, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

Ju

T

CH

PR

columns in 1906, while Botulism is described for the first time. Mr. G. K. Chesterton is responsible for the new article on Robert Browning, and Mr. R. A. Streatfeild for that on Samuel Butler. The popularity of Bridge is apparent from the fact that Mr. R. F. Green's article extends to more than five columns, whereas three-quarters of a column was considered sufficient in the previous edition.

Altogether, "Chambers's" keeps up its reputation for accuracy and ease of reference.

THE three-hundredth anniversary of William Byrd's death occurs on July 4th. There is no work available concerning the musician's life and compositions. Dr. Edmund H. Fellowes has now made Byrd the subject of a little book which the Oxford University Press will issue in time for the tercentenary. The same publishers have in the press, on behalf of the British Academy, Sir W. H. Hadow's Hertz Lecture on Byrd.

DETAILS of the edition of Charles Cotton's poems which Mr. Cobden-Sanderson is about to publish are to hand. Though selections from Cotton have been made, his "Poems on Several Occasions," 1689, have not been substantially reprinted; as they now are, with a degree of method not found in the posthumous and unauthorized original. Mr. John Beresford, the editor, has supplied introductions and commentary without stint, and in the light of family information and close research. The "Poems" will be published

A NEW book by Mr. Norman Douglas, "Together"described neatly enough as "a companion volume to Alone'"-is now with the printers, and is to be published in the autumn by Messrs. Chapman & Hall. A special edition on hand-made paper will be done. The price is to be 12s. 6d. or thereabouts. From Messrs, Chapman & Hall there is also to come a collection of short stories by Miss G. B. Stern, whose next three novels, like those of Mrs. Beatrice Kean Seymour, will appear with the same imprint.

4

With its array of data revised, and the new conditions in Ireland explained in two fresh chapters, the "Statesman's Year-Book" makes its sixtieth annual appearance from Messrs. Macmillan's. The manipulation of its details remains as skilful as ever; its sixteen hundred pages could scarcely be provided in handier size and form. The price

During the summer the history of the 12th Division will be published. The subscription price of the volume is provisionally fixed at 7s. 6d., and communications may be addressed to Major-General Sir Arthur Scott, 44, Iverna Court, Kensington, W. 8. Other records of the Great War which, we hear, are being prepared are the history of the 62nd Division, by Mr. Everard Wyrral, and that of the Royal Irish Rifles, by Mr. Cyril Falls, whose recent monu mental work upon the Ulster Division was appreciated in THE NATION AND THE ATHENÆUM.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Sat. 16. Royal Institution, 3.—"Atomic Projectiles and their Properties," Lecture VI., Sir Ernest Rutherford.
Sun. 17. South Place Ethical Society, 11 a.m.—"The Limitations of Economic Science," Mr. J. A. Hobson. Indian Students Ution (Keppel St., W.C.1), 8.—"Parliament of India, 1921-23," Mr. B. S. Kamat.
Mon. 18. London School of Economics, 5.—"The Restoration of the Gold Standard," Prof. Gustav Cassel (of Stockholm).
Aristotelian Society, 8.—"The Nature of Images," Prof. G. Dawes Hicks.
Tues. 19. Society for Roman Studies (Society of Antiquaries' Rooms), 4.30.—Annual Meeting; "Some Reflections on the Teaching of Roman History," Mr. G. H. Stevenson.
Royal Statistical Society, 5.15.

Stevenson.

Royal Statistical Society, 5.15.

King's College, 5.30.—"The Conflict within the Greek Moral Ideal," Lecture III., Mis H. D. Oakeley.

Royal Anthropological Institute, 8.15.—"Flint Implements at Foxhall Road, Ipswich," Prof. P. G. E. Boswell and Mr. J. Reid Moir.

Wed. 20. Royal Meteorological Society, 5.—"Phenological Observations in the British Isles in 1922," Messrs. J. E. Clark and I. D. Margary; and other Papers.
Geological Society, 5.30.—"The River-Gravels of the Oxford District," Mr. K. S. Sandford.
University College, 6.15.—"Economic and Statistical Aspects of a Capital Levy," Newmarch Lecture V., Sir Josiah C. Stamp.
Royal Microscopical Society, 8.—"Witches' Brooms" and "Tumours of Trees," by the late Dr. J. E. Blomfield.

Blomfield

Blomfield.
Society for Birth Control (Essex Hall), 8.—"Birth Control as It Interests Me," Mr. J. Lort-Williams.
Thurs. 21. Royal Society, 4.30.—"Plant Respiration as a Catalytic Process," Croonian Lecture, Dr. F. F.

a Catalytic Process," Croonian Lecture, Dr. F. I. Blackman.
Linnean Society, 5.
London School of Economics, 5.—" Devastation an Reconstruction in Europe," Prof. Gustav Cassel.
Royal Numismatic Society, 6.—Annual Meeting. -" Devastation and

THE WEEK'S BOOKS

Asterisks are used to indicate those books which are considered to be most interesting to the general reader. Publishers named in parentheses are the London firms from whom books published in the country or abroad may be obtained.

PHILOSOPHY.

PHILOSOPHY.

DUCKWORTH (J. Herbert). Auto-Suggestion and its Personal Application. Fisher Unwin, 6/-.

FLAMMARION (Camille). Death and its Mystery. Vol. III., After Death. Tr. by Latrobe Carroll. Fisher Unwin, 10/6. GREEN (George H.). The Mind in Action: a Study of Human Interests. Univ. of London Fress, 3/6.

JEFFERY (Clement). Auto-suggestion: a Basic Method of Cure. Beck, 26-27, 1vy Lane, E.C. 4, 1/-.

MORGAN (C. Lloyd). Emergent Evolution: Gifford Lectures, 1922. Williams & Norgate, 15/-.

REID (Louis Arnaud). Knowledge and Truth: an Epistemological Essay. Macmillan, 10/6.

ROGERS (Arthur Kenyon). The Theory of Ethics. Macmillan, 7/-.

*SANTAYANA (George). Scepticism and Animal Faith: Introduction to a System of Philosophy. Constable, 12/-.

STRATTON (George Malcolm). Anger: its Religious and Moral Significance. Allen & Unwin, 8/6.

LITERATURE. BIRON (Sir Chartres). Pious Opinions. Duckworth, 10/6. BUDGE (Sir E. A. Wallis). Egyptian Fairy Tales told in English Gowans & Gray, 1/-. ERSKINE (John). The Literary Discipline. New York, Duffield &

Co.

**MACKAIL (J. W.). The Alliance of Latin and English Studies.

**MUTRAY, 1/-.

**MENCKEN (H. L.). A Book of Burlesques. Cape, 7/6.

**STEIN (Gertrude). Geography and Plays. Boston, Mass., Four Seas
Co., \$3.50.

**WELLSWATER (Sir J. Arthur). The Outline of Everything. II.

Chapman & Dodd, 1/6.

POETRY AND THE DRAMA.

BRADBY (G. F.). Fireside, Countryside, and Other Poems. Milford, BRADBY (G. F.). Fireside, Countryside, and Other Poems. Millord, 2/6.
CHAPMAN (John Alex.). Christus Natus Est. Calcutta, Imperial Library, Metcalfe Hall, 12/6.
CHILDE (Wilfred Rowland). The Garland of Armor: Sixteen Poems of North England. Leeds, Swan Press, 52, Belle Vue Road, 1/-.
CONRAD (Joseph). The Secret Agent: a Drama in Three Acts. Privately printed by T. Werner Laurie, 637-.
COUTTS (Francis). Selected Poems. Lane, 7/6.
CRUMP (L. M.). The Marriage of Nausicaa; and Other Poems. Oxford, Blackwell, 5/-.
GOULD (Sir Francis Carruthers). Nature Verses: Songs from the West Country. Russell, 2/6.
HAWKE (John), ed. The Homeland Wordsworth: a Collection of the Shorter Poems. R.T.S., 2/6.
HILL (Brian). Wild Geese. The Joy Shop, 5, Avery Row, Grosvenor St., W. 1, 2/-.
"MASEFIELD (John). King Cole; and Other Poems. Helnemann, 6/-.
"MICHELL (D. M.). The Sorrow of Love; and Other Poems. Oxford, Blackwell, 2/6.
"MOULT (Thomas), ed. The Best Poems of 1922. Cape, 6/-.
"MURRAY (Gilbert), tr. The Cho8phorce (Libation-Bearers) of Eschylus. Allen & Unwin, 3/-.
NICOLL (Allardyce). Dryden and his Poetry. Harrap, 2/-.
NICOLLS (Bridget). Verses. Clifton, Baker & Son (Simpkin & Marshall).
NOBLE (Richmond). Shakespeare's Use of Song. With the Text of the Principal Songs. Milford, 12/6.

BANNING (George H.). Spunyarn. Methuen, 7/8.
FAGAN (Elisabeth). Dear Ann. Hutchinson, 7/8.
GATTY (Ivor). Edgar. Melrose, 7/6.
GOULDING (Edmund). Fury Hutchinson, 7/8.
GULL (C. Ranger). The Iron Box. Hurst & Blackett, 7/6.
HALL (Jarvis). Across the Mess. Methuen, 7/6.
HEARD (Adrian). Shining Folly. Hurst & Blackett, 7/6.
JERROLD (Ianthe). Young Richard Mast. Parsons, 7/6.
MANNIN (Ethel E.). Martha. Parsons, 7/6.
FAMAURIAC (François). Le Fleuve de Feu. Parls, Grasset, 6Ir. 75.
MAURIAC (François). The Kiss to the Leper. Tr. by James Whitall.
Heinemann, 6/NERVAL (Gérard de). Daughters of Fire: Sylvie—Emilie—Octavie.
Tr. by James Whitall, Heinemann, 6/NISBET (Maud I.). The Way of Things. Long, 7/OAKESHOTT (Ronald). Cut and Come Again. Hutchinson, 7/6.
RAYMOND (Ernest). Damascus Gate. Cassell, 7/6.
TWEEDALE (Violet). The School of Virtue. Long, 7/WHEN WOMAN RULES! A Tale of the First Women's Government.
By a Well-Known Member of Parliament. Long, 7/*WOLFE (Humbert). Circular Saws. Chapman & Hall, 8/-

he

E. rth

nd

in

pli-

ter

nan

ıre.

922.

ical

ion

oral

ish 1 &

ies.

Seas

ord, rial

ems cts.

ms.

the of

enor

6/-.

ord,

n &

t of 6.

5. Itall.

avie.

nent.

SECRETARIAL PRACTICE

Crown 8vo, cloth.

A New and Completely Revised Edition of this invaluable Manual of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries. Prepared by the Council in conjunction with his Honour JUDGE SHEWELL COOPER.

¶ A Treatise covering the general routine of a Secretary's duties. With the full text of Acts dealing with Companies. Every Secretary should possess a copy.

BOOK-KEEPING

For SECONDARY SCHOOLS and COMMERCIAL CLASSES

Demy 8vo, cloth.

4s. 6d.

Postage 5d.

By H. LOGAN RAMSEY, B.A.

¶ Written primarily for teachers in Secondary Schools, this book will be invaluable for students and examinees.

A COLLEGE MYSTERY

ONE OF THE MOST CONVINCING GHOST STORIES EVER WRITTEN. 2nd Edition-

By A. P. BAKER, M.A.

"This absorbing narrative of a Cambridge Don's unpremeditated crime."—Athenæum.

W. Heffer and Sons Limited, Cambridge. And of all Booksellers.

Pierre Loti.

Uniform edition of the works of Pierre Loti, Demy 8vo, Cloth. Illustrated with plates in colour by Mortimer Mempes, Romilly Fedden, Arthur Lamplough, John Fulleylove, etc. 10/6 net each.

PYRENEES

JAPAN

BRITTANY MOROCCO

JERUSALEM

JAPAN EGYPT INDIA MADAME PRUNE SIAM

* Please send for Prospectus. T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD., 30, New Bridge Street, London, E.C. 4.

WAYFARER" is now contributing his "London Diary" to THE NEW STATESMAN. Every Saturday — 6d.

Specimen copy Sewenpence from
THE NEW STATESMAN, 10 Great Queen St., London, W.C.2.

INSURANCE.

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.

Anticipate the heavy cost of educating your children by effecting an Endowment Assurance Policy.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO., LTD., HOLBORN BARS, LONDON, E.C.I.

DUCKWORTH ď

3, HENRIETTA STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Publishers of the Plays of John Galsworthy," The Roadmender," &c.,&c

A delightful volume of Literary Essays.

PIOUS OPINIONS

By SIR CHARLES BIRON. 10/6 net
"Dr. Johnson, Pope, Evelyn, St. Simon, Richardson, Smollett,
Marryat, Thackeray, Sydney Smith, Dickens, Wilkie Collins,
and Trollope all pass in procession through his pages—a rich
and varied collection of subjects, each of whom he turns to
excellent account."—Westminster Gazette.
"These essays are a joy. They are full of sound views, but
they also abound in quaint touches which demand a satisfactory chuckle."—Sunday Times.

The Economic & Strategic Position of America in the Atlantic

AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC By Vice-Admiral G. A. BALLARD. Cloth.

10/6 net.

The author's aim has been to trace the constant action and reaction between the strategic situation in the Atlantic and the development of American history.

DUCKWORTH'S FICTION

A realistic and poignant story of a woman's struggle for life

BEGGAR'S BANQUET

By GLADYS ST. JOHN LOE, author of "Spilled Wine." 7/6.

THE MARSDEN CASE

By F. M. FORD (Ford Maddox Hueffer). 7/6
"An extremely clever and entertaining comedy."—The Times.

THE ROAD (Second Impression)

By LADY DOROTHY MILLS. 7/6
"We are fascinated, hypnotised by the horror and mystery of it."—The Bookman.

Send for a List of the Plays by John Galsworthy. DUCKWORTH & CO., 3, Henrietta St., London, W.C.2

A Great Captain of Industry

ALFRED YARROW

His Life and Work

By ELEANOR C. BARNES (LADY YARROW)

With many coloured and other illustrations. One Volume. Demy 8vo. 10/6 net.

Daily News-" Inspiring record of a great life. A fascinating life story of a man, who, starting from the proverbial half-crown or less, has never looked back."

ALFRED YARROW

A Real Romance of Industry

London: EDWARD ARNOLD & Co., 41 and 43 Maddox Street, W.1.

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

THE AUSTRIAN LOAN AND REPARATIONS IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE.

THE new Austrian Loan has been an interesting experiment in international reconstruction. At last, after prolonged and complicated negotiations, Austria's liability to pay Reparation has been suspended, her exchange has been stabilized, the leading Powers of Europe have joined in guaranteeing a considerable loan under the auspices of the League of Nations, and she is now put on her legs again with financial resources, subject to the control of a Commissioner-General appointed by the League, which will last long enough to give a real opportunity of reconstructing her economic life. The story of her emergence from a state of complete ruin is unique, and shows what can be done by goodwill when political and racial animosities do not interfere. The credit for this happy result must be shared amongst many, particularly the past and present Financial Controllers of the British Treasury (Sir Basil Blackett and Mr. Niemeyer), Mr. Montagu Norman (the Governor of the Bank of England), Sir Henry Strakosch (lately Chairman of the Financial Committee of the League of Nations), and Sir Arthur Salter, also of the League of Nations. But no one has better reason to feel proud and to rejoice than Sir William Goode, who, although he has been in Hungary during the last phase engaged on similar duties, has been Austria's bravest friend through everything and saved Vienna from disaster in her darkest days.

The restoration of Austria is by far the biggest piece of constructive work accomplished hitherto by the League of Nations. Perhaps it indicates that, for the present, the best scope for the League is likely to be found in fields which are not the subject of acute controversy between the Major Powers, but where, in the absence of the League, the necessary organization and enthusiasm for constructive work would have been lacking.

The actual terms of the loan are interesting,—6 per cent. bonds issued at 80 (thus giving a flat interest yield of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.), redeemable by 1943 by means of drawings or purchase. The average life of the bonds will be thirteen years, so that the total yield, including profit on redemption, is £8 12s. 3d. per cent. The service of the loan is to be charged on the Customs duties and tobacco monopoly of the Austrian State, and is further guaranteed by the following Powers in the proportions stated:—

Great Brit	ain	***	***		24½ p	er cen
France	***				241	33
Italy	***			***	201	91
Czecho-Slo	vakis			***	241	23
Belgium	***				2	22
Sweden	***	***		***	2	22
Denmark			•		1	,,,
Holland					1	**

Bonds for \$25,000,000 have been floated simultaneously in New York by Messrs. Pierpont Morgan; and bonds for Kr.11,000,000 (issued at 98, carrying 6½ per cent. interest) in Sweden. Spain and Switzerland are also to give assistance in some other form.

Bonds may be issued altogether up to about £29,000,000. The English investor has been asked to

subscribe an amount of them which will cost about $\pounds 9,000,000$ in cash. Thus the amounts involved are substantial. Yet the public have eagerly come forward with a heavy over-subscription. If we average the credit of the guarantors, the terms of issue seem about right. In effect, Austria has been enabled by the guarantee to borrow on about the same terms as those which Czecho-Slovakia was able to get on her own credit.

The satisfactory issue of the Austrian business emphasizes the extreme harshness with which Hungary is being treated. A few weeks ago it seemed as if a suspension of Reparation liabilities might be allowed to Hungary also, as a prelude to the reconstruction of her finances and the flotation of a loan. The Committee of the Reparation Commission for Hungary consists of representatives of Great Britain, France, Italy, and Jugo-Slavia. Great Britain and Italy proposed and supported a constructive scheme; France and Jugo-Slavia opposed it. And the Committee being thus divided, the French Chairman proceeded to use his casting vote in favour of pushing back Hungary into misery and confusion. This is in some ways the least excusable, because the most wanton, instance of the French policy of promoting ruin in the interests of political combinations.

Turkey having taken matters into her own hands, there only remains Bulgaria (apart from Germany) with a Reparation problem to settle. Bulgarian Reparations were fixed originally at £90,000,000. This has now been reduced to the comparatively moderate figure of £22,000,000, with payments secured on the Customs spread over sixty years, the instalment for 1923 being £200,000. On June 6th the Sobranye ratified the settlement in the face of opposition based on the ground that Bulgaria was signing away her independence. On June 9th came a revolution, and within three days the Cabinet which ratified was in prison. The attitude of the new Government to the settlement remains to be seen.

Was ever a greater curse than this invented in the name of Justice?—this doctrine that it is positively our moral duty to ruin ourselves and our vanquished neighbours together, in an attempt to extract from them an enslaving tribute for a period of generations. One wonders sometimes why Socialists have not seized on the whole conception as the crowning crime of Capitalism! Never before in history have the greediest conquerors or the most austere crusaders conceived such penalties and such shackles as we modern industrial nations have sought to fix, by a ghastly perversion of the notion of foreign investment, on whole peoples and unborn innocents.

Yet even a little time works miracles. It is just four years since we were bravely drafting clauses to take away her cows from starving Austria. To-day we hand to her millions of money. The mild Viennese have conquered.

J. M. K.

out are ard dit ht. to

ess ary a aved of tee of of nd nd gonus stery

ds, th ons en of ms ng leat ne

he ur han ne he m! ors ies ve of

to we ve